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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

Travels in Southern Abyssinia, through the Country of Adal to the Kingdom of Shoa. By Charles Johnston, M.R.C.S. 2 vols. 8vo. London, J. Madden and Co.

WITHIN the last two years our *Gazette* has contained much information relating to this wild country, of which we previously knew so little. We may presume that desperate as is the path from the coast of the Red Sea to the Abyssinian frontier, through murderous tribes of Dankalli, and various Soumaalee; and doubtful as may be the treatment reserved for the travellers, when they do cross the Hawash and arrive within the dominions of the king of Abyssinia, the late English mission to Shoa, of which Major Sir C. Harris has published his account (see *Literary Gazette*, Nos. 1406 and 1413), and the explorations of such persons as Isenberg, Kraaf, and others, whose gallant services have also been recorded in our page,—are but the beginning of a more certain and settled intercourse with this remarkable quarter of Africa. To this end the mission, the circumstances of which are detailed in these volumes, is well calculated to contribute its share. The author followed after Major Harris, and took the same route. He encountered similar perils, and describes similar adventures. But he has treated his subject in a less ambitious manner; and brings vividly before his readers the aspects of the country and the manners of the people. His dangers are described in a modest unaffected style; and there is an undercurrent of dry humour in his narrative, not unworthy of the parched soil of which it speaks. Altogether we like it much, and, with the public, thank the writer for the intelligence it conveys.

In passing it candidly and fairly under review, it would be idle, as well as unjust, to attempt to blink the question of feud which has unhappily arisen between Sir C. Harris and Mr. Johnston; * which will no doubt start partisans of the pen to maintain the cause they may be induced to espouse. For ourselves, our only desire is to be impartial; to steer as clear as we can of this unfortunate quarrel; and to make it as much as possible our duty to extract what is useful and agreeable from either combatant, and, having taken the honey, leave them the hive to fight about or fill again. But, as we have hinted, we cannot avoid the unpleasantness entirely, because of its effect in colouring some of the statements which could not be rightly understood without reference to it. In the first volume, to which our present remarks will be confined, there is not so much of the dispute as in the second; and we are therefore relieved from all allusion to it, beyond the four following brief notices. In his preface Mr. J. states:

"Of my reception in Abyssinia by Captain Harris, I speak elsewhere; but the spirit with which my arrival was hailed may be supposed by the fact that during the first evening I managed, according to the notes of our conversation taken by my very courteous entertainer,

to assert a falsehood; to which, however, when I became aware of the circumstance, I gave an unqualified contradiction, and so ended all friendly intercourse until some months after, when a peace was negotiated through the mediation of Capt. Graham. The circumstances of this quarrel were most embarrassing to me, and have, I believe, occasioned considerable indignation on the part of those who had assisted me so far on my travels. Some respect, however, I do owe to myself; and feeling annoyed at being the subject of unworthy imputations, I have abstained from making any explanation whatever. Circumstances already have, in a great measure, exonerated me. The confidence of public men may be abused for a time, but it cannot long be imposed upon."

Far on in the journey there is a slap at the knightly honours which have been conferred on Sir C. Harris, where we have a taste of the dry humours of his opponent alluded to before.

"Here, among the thick bushes, I took up my residence for the day, surrounded by the Hy Soumaalee, whose heavy war-knives I had undertaken to improve in outward appearance, by fixing a bright dress naval button into a hollow piece of brass, usually placed as an ornament upon the end of the scabbard, but which, without the button to cover the otherwise bare extremity, presented an appearance that was not satisfactory to my educated Birmingham ideas of what constituted elegance. When I pointed out the defect, and suggested the improvement, it was surprising to observe the numbers who applied for the decoration. The order of the button, in fact, became quite the rage; and it was not until it had become very general indeed, that I lost the popularity which its first establishment had occasioned. Like knighthood, to have been respected, it ought to have been kept select, and the braves alone should have been thus rewarded; but when, moved by selfish considerations, I bestowed it upon Zaido, whose cowardice was the laugh of the whole kafilah, I found the moral of my influence gone, and the previously much-prized button became valued only as an article of commerce. But the mean in spirit have no idea of personal distinction; as I confessed to myself, when I heard that Zaido had sold honour's bright badge for a small bag of tobacco."

Farther onward, some strangers join the kafilah, and we are told: "They belonged to the little village of Ambabbou, which, it will be recollected, was our first halt after leaving Tadjourah. They gave us some news from Shoa, from whence they were returning home. They reported that the members of the political mission were all well, and that Dr. Kraaf had left Ankobar for Gondah. They confirmed that I had heard at Tadjourah from the two Greeks, Demetrius and Joannes, of the death of three servants, who had formerly belonged to the British embassy, and who, with five others, had been discharged very summarily, and, I think, very unwisely, on their arrival in Shoa. These three unfortunate men had endeavoured to return with the same kafilah which brought down the Greeks. They were attacked on this side of the Hawash by the Takale tribe, who,

it was supposed, had killed the servants, and several slave children besides. Subsequently, however, I found that only one of the former was murdered, the other two being protected, and ultimately conveyed safe to Shoa, by tribes to which they had fled immediately the attack was made by the Takale."

And lastly on this point: "One trait in the character of these people is, the great attention they pay to the condition of their arms. Brightening or sharpening them is their favourite amusement, and no fiercer scowls are excited than by the accidental disturbance of the carefully deposited shield or spear. No traveller in Adal can help observing this; and in the description of a war-dance of these people, in a recent work upon Ethiopia, its imaginary character is betrayed by the alleged beating of the shields; which, however characteristic it may be of the peaceable Abyssinian, when he endeavours to represent the turmoil of strife, is quite out of place when speaking of Dankalli customs and manners."

Having so far disposed of this rivalry, we now try back to the incidents of the journey, with the view to quoting the most interesting particulars which befel the kafilah, i.e. our counman and his escort, and the parties they encountered, and the matters they observed either in the human, animal, vegetable, or scientific kingdoms.

The races to which the inhabitants belong are thus described:

"Two nations of Calla or blacks, very different in physical character and social condition from each other, are now found in the country of ancient Ethiopia; the Shankalli, or the true negro, and the Dankalli, who belong decidedly to the Circassian variety of mankind, possessing round skulls, high full foreheads; the position of the eyes rectilinear; the nose, mouth, and form of countenance being in every respect concordant with the characters assigned to that type of the human race, excepting their colour, which was a dark brown, or sometimes quite black. Their hair, which is much frizzled and worn very full, is a savage caricature of a barrister's wig. I could perceive no other difference in features or in the form of the head between ourselves and several individuals of this people; indeed, there was often such a striking resemblance between them and some of my European acquaintances, that it was not unusual for me to distinguish them by bestowing the names of some of my far distant friends upon their Dankalli counterparts."

With the different Galla or Calla tribes, under patriarchal government, we become better acquainted as we proceed; but they all, or nearly all, seem to come within the foregoing division; and of the Dankalli, the superior Circassian race, we read the character with a wonder what the inferior Shankalli can be.

"In the first place (says Mr. J.), I am bound to add my testimony to that of every other traveller, to the proneness of the Dankalli to shed human blood, and the little value they seem to attach to human life. By a distortion of moral and natural ideas of right and wrong, unparalleled in the history of any other people, murder is considered by them to be highly honourable.

* See also report of proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society.

Every fresh assassination is rewarded by an additional personal ornament, and the destruction of a sleeping guest, or of a fighting foe, contribute alike to the credit and reputation of the brave. The well-dissembled bearing by which they lure the most suspicious into a fatal confidence, and the firm bravery with which they attack a more powerful enemy, can only be referred to the operation of mental powers of the very first order, and, according to my own ideas of the nature of man, they present the extreme of moral degradation that the caste to which they belong can fall into.* I am not a willing evidence against a people among whom I spent some not unpleasant days, and received much instruction from the opportunities afforded me of studying their character, and the circumstances under which they are placed, and which convinced me that, if properly educated and directed, they would take a very high rank among civilised nations. I feel assured that in a more favourable situation, and under another social economy, those intellectual capabilities now only developed in evil, would fast progress to the most enlightened civilisation."

Here is the context:—"When I reflect upon the striking contrast exhibited in the very different characters of the Dankalli and Shankalli people, the pressure from without of observed facts inclines me to a system of mankind-love different entirely from any yet advanced, but which it would be presumption in me to put forward, until increasing years and further observation give weight to the opinions of one who at present is merely an humble, but zealous, inquirer after truth. Adapting myself therefore, as much as possible, to the generally received ideas upon the national divisions of man at an early period, I am led to suppose that the Dankalli are the remains of a once great and powerful people, the vices of whom have outlived the period of their decline as a nation, and now characterise their descendants in a situation where they are reduced to a state of nature corresponding, except in these resulting consequences of previous civilisation, to that of the real child of uncultivated nature, the happy, contented, good-natured Shankalli."

The last passage leads us to a previous confession of faith, from which we may gather some of the writer's notions in regard to Christianity and a reformed ideal deist world. It is one which will probably afford his adversaries a ground of attack on which to make their strongest stand.

"There are (he says) few interesting subjects, respecting which so little is generally known, as the Mahomedan religion. It professes a belief in one true and only God; and Islamism, apart from the rule of life instituted by Mahomed, was professed by Abraham, by Isaac, and, according to my opinion, which is of no value, but as satisfactory to my own conscience, was also taught by Jesus and his disciples. That our Saviour will appear again, is the cherished hope of every enlightened Mahomedan, and he glories in affirming that all the inhabitants of the world will then become his followers. This is so general an idea, that even the ignorant Mahomedans of the East firmly believe that the Amhara, or Christian population of Abyssinia, will at a future time seize Mecca, and destroy the temple. Something similar to this is the expressed fear of the Turks at the present day, that the Feriingeys will ultimately take Constantinople, and put down their religion. Both these popular ideas originate from the same source as that which directs the learned Islam Mollum to ex-

pect the coming of Jesus; a tradition respecting Mahomed, who is stated to have confessed, that inasmuch as that Christ was not dead but living, and would come again, he was superior to himself, who was mortal and should die, like other men. The numerous and fast-extending sect, the Whaabees, act up to this admission, and not only are they careful to avoid all allusions to Mahomed in their prayers, but affect to make intercession in his behalf, by praying that God will forgive him his great sins; for not only they, but all other Mahomedans, admit that their prophet was so far from being immaculate, that he frequently violated the laws which he himself had promulgated as coming direct from Allah. The Whaabees, who are Mahomedan Unitarians, a few years back overran all Arabia, destroyed the tomb of Mahomed in Medina, and were about to act in a similar manner towards the temple in Mecca. The first man, however, who had mounted the roof for this purpose, by some accident was precipitated to the ground and killed. This looked so like a judgment, that the zeal of these reformers abated considerably, and being soon after driven out of the Hedjas, and in some measure suppressed, by Mahomed Allee Pacha, this famous shrine escaped, for some short time, that destruction which I hope yet to see accomplished. I need not enter into details of our interesting conversation, which only terminated with the setting sun. All afternoon we lay discussing matters of religion until it was fully understood by all that I was a Christian Whaabee; and Ohmed Medina taking hold of my beard, drew it gently through his hand, as he said, that 'an Ahkeem with such a promise of wisdom as that, ought to be altogether a Mussulman.' 'Thou almost persuadest me to be a Christian,' would have been a more gratifying speech from my Islam companion; but I am no St. Paul. In my notes upon this conversation, I have remarked that it is my firm conviction that the believers in one God, who live according to the moral precepts of the religion of Jesus, is the sect to whom is reserved the glory of reuniting in one faith the present divided family of man. Unitarianism is the fore-coming shadow of this to be universally acknowledged belief, and all who profess its tenets should reflect upon the important object committed to their agency, and, encouraged by the high hope that must result from their thoughts upon the subject, they will perhaps increase their endeavours to spread more widely the principles of faith which they profess. This observation is inserted solely as a matter of what I conceive to be duty; I hope, therefore, that thus recording my conviction, a bearing testimony to what the natural education of circumstances has taught me to believe to be the truth, will not be charged as presumption; especially when I feel assured that my omitting it would be an act of the grossest ingratitude to my constant Guide and Guard, who has led and preserved me through no ordinary difficulties and dangers."

From such topics, however, we are glad to get to natural phenomena, and even to Kafilah-fights; but these we reserve for our next No.

Lives of the Queens of England, &c. By Agnes Strickland. Vol. VII. Pp. 485. Colburn. THE present volume of this very popular publication,—so peculiarly fitted for a female pen and mind, which, as it regards more the received features of the biographical portraiture and general history than minute traits and antiquarian siftings, is the more likely to attain that popularity,—will be an equal favourite with its predecessors. It concludes the life of Eliza-

beth, and contains the whole of that of Anne of Denmark, the queen of James VI. and I. Miss Strickland's opinion of Queen Elizabeth is maintained to the end; and the collected accounts of her last days and deathbed serve to complete her character of her as a great queen, but imperious and heartless woman.

The memoir of Anne of Denmark, on the other hand, softens all the censures which have been accumulated upon her husband, and holds him up as a monarch much misrepresented by faction and party writers. Such are the author's views; and she adduces many facts and arguments in support of them, which we have neither space nor inclination to canvass. As for Anne herself, she seems to have been a petulant, self-willed, and ungovernable creature, reckless of state-policy, or ought else, when put in competition with her own wishes, and often causing her fond spouse much trouble, and endangering the peace and safety of his kingdom. One of the chief matters in dispute was the education of their children, and particularly of their eldest, Prince Henry, by the Earl of Marr, in Stirling Castle. Upon this point the evidence is remarkable, and the observations sensible.

"The correspondence of Anne of Denmark is a very curious feature in her history. It is almost unique, not only among queenly epistles, but is almost deserving a place in the history of letter-writing. She seldom wrote by deputy—her autographs are all holographs, and her letters extant consist of a series of mere notes, in which, though a foreigner, she contrived to infuse her whole meaning. These little missives are written in the most exquisite Italian hand; they are, most of them, spirited and humorous; all are pithy, and to the purpose of the writer. The first note extant, in the queen's hand, we are inclined to think belongs to the time when she was intriguing to get possession of her infant, and was meant to provide funds for her rebellious journey to Stirling. There is a hurry of spirit in its inditing which could belong to no other period of her life, excepting at another attempt of the kind made when her husband was absent taking possession of the English throne: but this document is written in the Scottish dialect, while, to the queen's credit, she had made herself mistress of the English language before she became queen of England, and wrote and spelled it far better than did her great grand-daughter, Queen Anne of Augustan celebrity. The present document is addressed to George Heriot, banker and jeweller to Anne of Denmark, who is almost as much immortalised by the genius of Sir Walter Scott as by his own good works. Unfortunately, Anne of Denmark never dated a note or letter. If she had known what a great inconvenience this careless habit would be to her dutiful biographer, she surely would have amended it for her own sake.

'*Ane precept of the queen.*'—Geordg Heriatt, I earnestlie dissyr youe present to send me tua hundrethe pundes with all expidition, becaus I maun hest me away presentie.

'ANNA R.'

"In the course of a few days, the king in-

* "Holograph, from original papers pertaining to Heriot's Hospital, kindly communicated by the Rev. Dr. Stevens, Edinburgh. We are indebted to the great kindness of the Rev. Dr. Stevens, the late learned master of Heriot's Hospital, for the communication of these curious items, from the contemporary indited records belonging to that noble foundation, which he has most generously communicated. We are happy to learn that Dr. Stevens is preparing a history of Heriot's Hospital, from the rich store of documents in the charter-chest of the institution, to which he has for the last five years devoted his time and talents."

* Like the Thugs of India.—Ed. L. G.

formed the queen that, as her heart was so entirely set on seeing her infant, she should go to Stirling Castle forthwith, but she refused, lest it should be supposed that she went thither out of compliment to the Earl of Marr, to grace the wedding of Lord Glamis. She declared she was not well, and she would not go; but the king obliged her to obey him. She set out on horseback, May 30th, with her train, but either was, or pretended to be, so seriously discomposed by the caperings and rearings of her horse, that she took to her bed at Linlithgow Palace, and professed herself too ill to go any farther. The Earl of Marr made a journey to pay his duty to her in her sickness, but was not admitted to her presence, 'for fear,' as it was said, 'that he should perceive her illness to be fictitious.' He was, besides, so uncivilly treated by her people, that he was glad to return to Stirling Castle the same day that he left it. The queen added, to the ingratitude of insulting so trusty a friend as the Earl of Marr, the folly of an attempt which, in the eyes of a less indulgent husband than King James, would have been considered downright rebellion. She planned an expedition to Stirling Castle, while the king was absent on summer progress: she meant to head an armed band, composed of the lords of her faction and their followers, who were, by force, to take the infant prince from the Earl of Marr. The king heard of this plot, and made a journey, from Falkland Palace, speedy enough to prevent it. He obliged the queen to travel with him to Stirling Castle, but differently attended to what she had devised. Here the king permitted her to see and caress her babe as much as she chose, but was inexorable in his intentions of retaining Marr as his guardian. Indeed, he left the following document in the hands of Marr when they quitted the castle:—

'My Lord Marr,—Because in the surety of my son consisteth my surety, and I have credited to yow the charge of his keeping on the trust I have of your honesty; this I command yow, out of my own mouth, being in company of those I like,* otherwise, for any charge or necessity which can come from me yow shall not deliver him. And in case God call me at any time, see that neither for the queen, nor the estates their pleasure, yow deliver him till he be eighteen, and that he command yow himself. This from your assured friend,

JAMES R.
'Striveling (Stirling) Castle, June 24, 1595.'

"A succession of stormy debates, agitated by the queen's faction, in the council ensued, but all failed in shaking the king's firm trust in the loyalty of the Earl of Marr and his lady-mother. To the infinite discontent of the royal mother, her little son remained at Stirling. Whoever glanced over the events of the seven successive minorities of the kings of Scotland, will plainly perceive that it was the systematic policy of the oligarchy of that country to get possession of the heir of the kingdom, and, as soon as possible, to destroy the father,† and govern, during a long minority, according to their own notions of justice, which was invariably the law of the strongest. To obviate this customary order of affairs, James III. had fortified the castle of Stirling, and educated his heir in that stronghold; but his barons had, at

last, obtained possession of the royal boy, and destroyed their sovereign in his name. James VI. and the Earl of Marr resolved, that the infant Henry should never be set up as a paracidal puppet. The king had studied the history of his country; and we have just shewn how he had explained to his queen, that he had himself, in his unconscious infancy; been made the instrument of his unfortunate mother's deposition, and that the same tragedy would be repeated if her boy was not left in the keeping of the Earl of Marr, who had, even in youth, proved himself well worthy the trust of being hereditary guardian of the prince of Scotland, and captain of Stirling Castle. It must lower the character of Anne of Denmark in the eyes of every one, both as woman and queen, that she was not to be convinced by these unanswerable inferences from the experience of the past, but preferred to indulge the mere instincts of maternity at the risk of involving her husband, her infant, and their kingdom, in the strife and misery of unnatural warfare. The queen continued to torment herself, and all around her, with her grievances and jealousies regarding her eldest son, till her thoughts were for a time detached by the birth of her second child."

This extract might suffice to exhibit as much as is now needed (after six former volumes) of the talents of the author; but we will recede a little, in respect to time, to offer two other specimens. After the king's gallant journey to Norway, and romantic marriage with his storm-stayed bride, he brought her to her Scottish home; and we are told:

"While the queen was reposing after her fatigues, her king was bestirring himself to raise funds for the expenses which his marriage rendered unavoidable. He was afflicted by all the tribulations common to those who wish to make a splendid appearance with very slender means, or rather, without any means whatsoever. Very piteous were the missives sent forth to his nobles, requiring benevolences to meet the expenses of his queen's coronation, and the celebration of his marriage festivities. Nothing came amiss—from those who had no ready cash, goods were thankfully accepted or borrowed. One family possesses an autograph letter from the king, dated Linlithgow Palace, in which he begs 'the loan of some silver spoons, to grace his marriage feast.' In another letter, he craved the loan of a pair of silk stockings, from his dear Jonnie Slaites (the earl of Marr), for his own royal wearing, at a reception he gave the Spanish ambassador, adding, with a pathos peculiar to himself, 'Ye wad na that your king suld appear a scrub, on sic an occasion.' 'I have a curious letter,' says Pennant, 'addressed by king James to John Boswell, of Balmato, of whom he begged the loan of a thousand marks, with this pithy remark, 'Ye will rather hurt yoursel vera far, than see the dishonour of your prince and native country, with the poverty of baith set down before the face of strangers.' Nor was the important subject of the 'ready siller' the only torment which plagued the poor king. The manner of the queen's coronation threatened to produce a religious warfare among the divines of the three differing faiths which were still struggling in Scotland."

These and the other particulars, into which we do not enter, are judiciously collated by Miss Strickland from the Bannatyne Papers and the contemporary chroniclers Melville, Majoribanks, and Moysie. Hence we learn, that "the queen made her state-entry into Edinburgh from Leith, on the Tuesday before her

coronation, riding in a car, richly gilt, lined with crimson velvet; on each side of her sat her two favourite Danish maids of honour, Katrine Skinkell and Anna Kroas. The king rode on horseback, immediately before the queen's carriage, and thus, with a vast train of the nobles and gentry, then resident at Edinburgh, the royal bride was escorted to old Holyrood. Whatever trouble king James might have in raising the funds for the occasion, it is certain that every thing was, at last, procured consistent with the grand ceremony of a coronation; and his Danish bride was provided with rich robes, and all appurtenances accordant with the 'royal making of a queen,' as the following memorandums, extracted from the book of expenses, on this occasion, will fully prove:—"By his highness' precept and special command for furnishing ane robe to his dearest bed-fellow, the queen, the 17th of May, being the day of her majesty's coronation. Imprimis, for 30 ells of purple velvet, to be the said robe, price the *elne*, 16*l*. Sixteen ells of white Spanish taffeta, to be lining of the said robe. Thirty-four ells broad passaments of gold, wrought twice about the same, weighing 44 oz. and ane drap weight, price of the oz. 5*l*. 3 oz. of broad passaments of gold, of ane narrower sort, to work the *craig* (neck) of said robe; 6 oz. of silk to sew the same, 2*4s*. 1 ell of Spanish taffety, to furnish the lining and *stammack* (stomacher). Item, to the said *stammack*, half an ell of purple velvet. Purple velvet, and red crimson satin, to line the *bonnet* (cap) of her majesty's crown; price of the ell of velvet, 16*l*, and of the ell of satin, 7*l*. Four ells of white Florence ribbon, to be strings to the said *stammack*, and ane hank of gold to a greit button to the aforesaid robe. 3 ells of white taffety to his majesty's board, viz. to a white silk table-cloth, 7*l*. 10*s*. The extravagant price of the materials need not startle the reader. The pounds were but 'punds Scotts,' which reduces all things to a reasonable rate. The pages and footmen who waited on her majesty of Scotland, were duly graced with jackets and *jupes* of crimson velvet. The Danish lords were liberally supplied with scarlet broad cloth for their table-cloths, and stool-covers, at the kirk and palace of Holyrood."—"A quarter of a century had elapsed since a queen had presided over the Scottish court, and this had been a period of unexampled savageness and brutality among the men who composed it, insomuch that no female could pass through any part of the king's palace without being grossly affronted by the officers of the household. The queen herself, only passing between her own private apartment and that of the king at Linlithgow Palace, being unknown, was insulted by one of her husband's gentlemen. Great reformations in consequence;—and greatly needed they were,—took place at the ill-behaved court; but the introduction of the decorum which the etiquette of a queen's household required so offended the ladies who had previously frequented it, that they departed by mutual consent, and left the fair Dane to exercise the new regulations solus with her household ladies. 'I have seen the king's grace, but not the queen,' wrote one of James's officials, June 11, 1590, 'for things are beginning to be strangely altered; the court wondrous solitary—for the pattern of the court of Denmark is greatly before the eyes of the king

"Fifteen feather beds, hired for the strangers (Danes and others), from the 4th day of May 1590 to the 18th of June, when the queena went to Dunfermline, 'taking for ilka bed in the night, 2*s*.' likewise, for furnishing eight chambers, with two feather beds in every chamber, and coal and candle thereto, to the Danes who slept out of the palace."

and of our reformadoes, by whom the royal household is diminished of the best of his servants. Our queen carries a marvellous gravity, which, with the reserve of her national manners, contrary to the humour of our people, hath banished all our ladies clean from her.' The superabundance of gravity imputed thus to the young queen of Scotland is by no means in accordance with the general tenour of her conduct during the first years of her marriage, which, in truth, rather indicated the levity natural to a girl of sixteen than the dignity becoming her exalted rank. She manifested more gaiety than was consistent with prudence, and at last raised no little jealousy in the mind of her husband by her commendations of the beauty of the Earl of Murray."

Other indiscretions occurred at other periods; but our author considers them all to have been limited to trifling, and an inclination for pleasantries!

We only stop to point the attention of readers to the relation of the witch-doings, to which the storm that nearly wrecked the Queen, and did drown Lady Melville, was attributed, and the catastrophe that followed the confessions of Annis Sampson, and many others. One of the articles "accuses Annis Simpson, on her own confession, 'that she, with ten other witches and wizards, indited a diabolical despatch to Marian Leuchop, a noted sorceress at Leith, which billet ran thus: 'Marion Leuchop, Ye sal warn the rest of the sisters to raise the wind this day at eleven hours, to stop the queen's coming to Scotland.' This feat, they supposed, was accomplished by the following ceremony:—'They baptised a cat, and passed her thrice through the links of the chimney cruik (on which the boilers hang); then, at Bessie Todd's house, they tied four joints of a dead man to the cat's feet, and at midnight all the witches and their allies at Leith sallied out, and carried the cat to the pier-head; from thence they cast her as far as possible into the sea, and cried out, 'See, there be no deceit among us.' Poor puss, notwithstanding her impediments, swam safely on shore, from which the whole sisterhood inferred 'that the queen would arrive safely in Scotland.' However, they repeated the ceremony; and they considered that the drowning of Lady Melville at Leith Ferry was the result. In consequence, Sir James Melville, in his memoirs, bears Simpson and her cummers an especial ill-will. She proceeded to confess before the council, 'that she and a large sisterhood of witches, to the number of two hundred, all put to sea, each embarking in a separate riddle or sieve, each carrying a flagon of wine, with which they made merry, and floated jovially to North Berwick kirk, where they landed, and sang this stave:

'Cummer, go ye before!
Cummer, go ye!
Gif ye will not go before,
Cummer, let me.'

This being sung in chorus to the tune of a popular reel, Gillies Duncan led the procession, playing on a Jew's trumpet.' This narrative proved a little too strong for the credulity of the king, upon which the witch, Annis Simpson, who seemed thoroughly actuated by an *esprit du corps* for the honour and possibility of her art, requested Gillies Duncan might be sent for, who performed the witch-tune and danced the witch's dance to the accompaniment of that

* 'Records of the High Court of Justiciary.' Annis Simpson was first strangled and then burnt to ashes on this evidence. Papers on the marriage of James VI. with Anne of Denmark (xvi.).

melodious instrument the Jew's harp. The king was the only person who remained incredulous, upon which Annis, being determined to produce conviction in the royal mind, took the monarch on one side, and told him all that passed between him and the queen at their first interview on the desolate coast of Norway. James was aghast, and vowed by all that was sacred 'that he did not believe the utmost cunning of the evil one could have revealed the same.' The result of all these follies was a melancholy one. The poor monomaniac, the *soi-disant* witch, Annis Simpson, was, in the legal phraseology of Scotland, sentenced to be 'first *werriet* and then *brunt*.' Accordingly she was first strangled, and then her body was consumed to ashes. It is to be feared that her mischievous hallucinations brought the same doom on two or three other persons—some of whom, it is said, were tortured to induce confession. Such is the inference to be drawn from the proclamation for the apprehension of Bothwell, who, when he found himself irretrievably implicated in the confessions of witch Annis, broke prison and ran away. As to the queen herself, she remained perfectly passive in the business, content that the wisdom and godliness of her royal spouse had, according to the witch's evidence, saved her from a watery grave."

We have no occasion to observe that this is pleasant reading; and have only to request our fair friend hereafter not to write the vulgarism "laid" for "lay," which she does more than once in this volume.† The portrait of Elizabeth from Lord Stradbroke's collection, and the singular vignette of Anne of Denmark in her hunting-gear, are very appropriate embellishments.

Poems. By Coventry Patmore. Pp. 157.
London, E. Moxon.

A DISCIPLE of the Lakists, there are in this volume distinct marks of the genuine afflatus, and equally distinct examples of the absence of just regulation and critical judgment to keep the imaginative within the rational bounds. We never met the beautiful and the objectionable in closer or more intimate relationship—thought next to thought, stanza next to stanza, line next to line, and even word next to word. Every poem is exemplary of these intertwined features of the true and false, the natural and the puerile, the forcible and the weak, the well-expressed and the namby-pamby.

The first piece, *ex. gr.*, is called the "River," and opens thus:

"It is a venerable place,
An old ancestral ground,
So wide, the rainbow wholly stands
Within its lordly bound;
And all about that large expanse
A river runneth round."

A rainbow standing within any bounds is not readily to be conceived, any more than a regularly circular river "all about;" but then comes, in the next stanza but one, a charming picture of the old manor hall:

* "News from Scotland," a contemporary tract, vol. xlix. of the 'Gentleman's Magazine.' Many passages in the witch-dialogues in 'Macbeth' have evidently originated from this tract."

† Nor is this the only instance of slovenly writing; witness the following:—"Only it was the right royal pleasure of the mighty Elizabeth to be thus delineated in her sportive vein, we might be apt to fancy that she had been profanely caricatured in this undignified costume." We cannot resist noticing the evidence this volume furnishes of the danger of (ladies) parading learning: in p. 74 we find "*imperio in imperio*;" in the next page "*love majestic*!"

"Around its many gable-ends
The swallows wheel their flight;
Its huge fantastic weather-vanes
Look happy in the light;
Its warm face through the foliage gleams,
A comfortable sight."

The following are also sweetly poetical:

"Beyond the river, bounding all,
A host of green hills stand,
The manor-rise their central point,
As cheerful as a band
Of happy children round their chief
Extended hand in hand.

Their shadows from the setting sun
Reach all across the plain;
The guard-hound in the silent night
Stops wrangling with his chain
To hear at every burst of barks
The hills bark back again."

But the last stanza of this first part is faulty in construction and poor in idea:

"That lady loves the pale Witchaire,
Who loves too much to sue,
He came this morning hurriedly,
Then out her young blood flew.
But he talked of common things, and so
Her eyes are steep'd in dew."

In consequence of his want of audacity, the lady, not without lingering hopes that he will interfere, betroths herself to and marries another. And the season finely sympathises with this untoward course of true love:

"November and the rains are come;
The river, once so bright,
Is foul and black, and gloomily
Makes known across the night
In far-heard plash and hollow drench
The passage of its might.
The bridegroom hurrieth through the park—
The hour is here at last:
The dark trees chatter drearily
Within the dying blast:
He thinks the bride is at his side,
What cares he for the blast!"

Meanwhile Witchaire watches the fête; and

"The moonshine shineth in his eye,
From which no tear doth fall:
Full of vacuity as death
Its slaty, parched ball.
Fixedly, though expressionless,
Gleams on the distant hall.
Thence tinged by colour'd figures quaint
Of nun and saint devout,
Broad bars of red and purple light
Stand in the mist without:
Mournfully through the muffled air
Cometh the laughter-shout.
His forehead clearerth suddenly!
Some thought brings pleasant balm.
He straighteneth up, and now he stands
Erect as any palm.
Hath he some soothing plan of life?
No; for he looks too calm."

And this is poetry:

"The sickly moon among the clouds
Is loitering slowly by;
Now in a circle, like the ring
About a weeping eye;
Now left quite bare; now merely like
A pallor in the sky.
The lonely stars are here and there,
But weak and wasting all;
The winds are dead; the cedars spread
Their black arms like a pall;
The guests have vanish'd one by one
Out of the bridal hall.
The moon is looking through the mist,
Cold, lustreless, and wan;
How wildly past her dreary form
Those watery clouds rush on!
A moment white beneath her light,
And then, like spirits, gone,
Silent and fast they hurry past,
Their swiftness striketh dread,
For earth is hush'd, and no breath sweeps
The spider's dewy thread,
And every thing but those pale clouds
Is dark, and still, and dead."

The place and the hour for self-destruction; and yet some of the minutiae are far too lakish for our taste.

"No wind stirreth the willow-tree
That droopeth from the bank;
The water goeth quietly
Beneath the sedges dank;
Yet the willow trembleth in the stream,
And the dry reeds talk and clank.
The weak stars swoon; the jagged moon
Is lost in the cloudy air.
No thought of light! save where the wave
Sporteth a fitful glare.
The world, in breathless impotence,
Seems choking with nightmare."

In these waters sleeps the corpse of the speechless lover; and

"Amid bleat February's flaw
Tremulous snowdrops peep;
Erect and sharp the crocus starts
Up from its winter sleep;
The river-buds, in starry hosts,
Ride on the water deep.

The current, in its old content,
Betwixt fresh banks doth run;
The pike, as trackless as a sound,
Shoots through the waters down;
And languid April chestnut-leaves
Have broadened 'd in the sun."

We question the pike-simile; but the description moves finely on:

"The summer's prime is come again;
The trees are out anew;
The current keeps the dreadful past
Deep in its bosom blue,
And babbleth low through sleeping fields
Grey with the falling dew.

The sheep-bell tolleth curfew-time;
The gnats, a busy rout,
Fleck the warm air; the distant owl
Shouteth a sleepy shout;
The voiceless bat, more felt than seen,
Is flitting round about;

The aspen leaflets scarcely stir;
The river seems to think;
A thwart the dusk the lotus brood
Looks coolly from its brink,
Where, listening to the freshest noise,
The quiet cattle drink.

The bees boom past; the white moths rise,
Like spirits, from the ground;
The grey-flies hum their weary tune,
A distant, dream-like sound;
And far, far off, to the slumberous eve
Bayeth an old guard-hound."

A dreamy and rather lame and impotent conclusion finishes the composition; and as this poem contains greater beauties and less defects than any other of even a few pages' length in the volume, we shall confine our extracts to it, with only a morsel from *Lilian*, to ask if it can be considered poetry.

"Even the dreadful glimpses now began to fade away,
And disappear'd completely, when my *Lilian* ask'd
one day,
If I knew what reason Winton had to make so long a
stay

In England. 'For,' said *Lilian*, with untroubled
countenance,
'Winton of course has told you of the love he left in
France.'

I seized her hand, and kiss'd it: joy had left no utter-
ance."

The Industrial Resources of Ireland. By Robert Kane, M.D., &c. Pp. 417. Dublin, Hodges and Smith.

LET us draw our breath. An Irish volume, about Ireland, and neither politics nor party in it! Dr. Kane is a phoenix.

He has given us a work full of valuable information, about the country and the sources from which, with common industry, perseverance, and quiet, it may raise itself in the rank of nations, and support a people in as much comfort and happiness as any upon the face of the globe. Nature has been bountiful to Ireland, and it would seem as if her evils had sprung out of that blessing. Had her soil been poor and sterile, her population must have done as the Scotch have done, toiled hard with an ungrateful land and uncertain climate for bare

life; but the riches of a great portion of the island, and the ease with which the slightest cultivation procured food enough for idleness to vegetate or beg upon, have been her bane. It is not the character of the Irish. Look at them in the most toiling employments of London, and where are there more steady workmen? It is, indeed, lamentable to read Dr. Kane's book, and reflect on the ample means within their own boundaries to make them prosperous and contented, and to see it nearly all thrown away, and sacrificed to a condition of society equally at issue with prudence, reason, morals, and Christianity. Sorrowful it is, that the Gem of the sea, so beautifully set, should be deteriorated and destroyed by flaws of its own production. Let the plain statements of Dr. Kane be well considered, and have their proper effect in proper quarters; and we need never hear more of systematic murders and outrages under any denomination, of rival races (rivetted together by centuries), and periodical famines, and ever-existent misery.

In the first place the author treats of the fuel which Ireland can supply for manufacturing; points out her coal-fields, and shews how much may be done with her peat. He mentions with eulogy Lord Willoughby de Eresby's invention for compressing this material, and rendering it generally equal, and in some cases, such as the process of steel-making, superior to coal; and we rejoice to see it stated, that under the superintendence of another party, Mr. Charles Wye Williams, it has been introduced to a considerable extent in various branches of transit and commerce.

"The total area of Ireland is twenty millions of acres. The total area of bog is estimated at 2,830,000 acres; nearly one-seventh of the entire surface of the island. Of these bogs there are 1,576,000 acres of flat bog; the remaining 1,254,000 acres are mountain bog. The former is spread over the central portions of the great limestone plain; the latter is principally distributed through the hilly country which ranges along the coast. In an industrial point of view, it is the central district of bogs which deserves attention."—"There is nothing in the industrial economy of this country which requires more alteration than the collection and preparation of our turf. Indeed, I may say, that for practical purposes this valuable fuel is absolutely spoiled, as it is now prepared. It is cut in a wet season of the year; whilst drying it is exposed to the weather; it hence is in reality not dried at all. It is very usual to find the turf of commerce containing one-fourth of its weight of water; although it then feels dry to the hand."

This was the strong argument of Lord Willoughby for his process, and frequently impressed with earnestness on the public in the *Literary Gazette*; by that process the water was entirely evaporated, and the fuel made dense and perfect. The Irish might be assured, even without the evidence now going on before their eyes in the Shannon steamers, &c., that if they look to the uses of their bogs, they will find much more profitable in them than an "old prophecy," which the song says was found there.

Then Ireland has plenty of iron, more precious than the so-called precious metals. The destruction of the woods in every country, where charcoal was largely consumed in working iron, gradually diminished, and finally stopped that process; but the application of coal-coke, by Dudley, not only saved England, but raised it to the highest pitch almost of monopoly. Dr. Kane demonstrates that Ireland may readily and advantageously compete in the same course. He

then goes on to describe, from accurate geological, statistical, and other investigations, that in copper, lead, silver, and perhaps, to a certain extent, in gold, the island possesses abundant requisites for a flourishing trade. Then its agricultural capabilities are discussed, and shewn to be ample beyond most parts of the earth. What could be done with its flax is explained; its vast resources for internal navigation; and, in short, its possession of every thing but industrial education, and fairly putting its shoulder to the wheel, to render it a national boast instead of a national puzzle.

Let us hope the time is nearly come—much is doing—there is a lull in affairs—attention is strongly directed towards the subject. Such data as Dr. Kane places before us should direct it aright; and great anxiety does prevail to see it rightly directed.

A History of China, from the Earliest Records to the Treaty with Great Britain in 1842. By T. Thornton, Esq., M.R.S.A. Vol. I. 8vo, pp. 560. London, Allen and Co.

MR. THORNTON having faithfully finished his able history of India, has, with good feeling, returned to his older passion China, and given us here the first of two volumes in which he proposes to afford a historical sketch of that remarkable empire, which may now be said to have entered into inter-communion with the other civilised nations of the world. It treats of the traditional annals, and endeavours to separate the true from the fabulous; and continues them to about the middle of the fifth century of the Christian computation. The views are calm, moderate, and judicious; and the information collected not only from the great Chinese works, but from the recent labours of English, French, and German scholars. On one antiquarian point we notice an argument the force of which we cannot comprehend. Mr. T. says, "Another fact, which corroborates the antiquity of the Chinese and the verity of their historical annals, is deducible from coins of the emperors, still extant, reaching beyond the Christian era: whether these coins be genuine or counterfeit, their historical value is the same." We confess that we are not of this opinion.

Mr. T. notices several matters which array themselves against the popularity of publications concerning China; and they are well founded, especially those which relate to the difficulty of pronouncing the names, and the confusion of mind which springs from the eye looking on combinations of letters which convey nothing definite to the understanding of readers. There is also another drawback which we do not think he notices, viz., the references to works, origins, and authorities, of which ninety-nine persons out of a hundred do not know the meaning. A glossary should explain them "for the benefit of country gentlemen." But a little diligence will readily overcome such obstacles; and assuredly the history of China is now more than ever deserving of a thorough intelligence in England. To this effect the work before us, if we may judge of the whole by the moiety, will contribute essentially; and with the satisfactory map which accompanies it, do much to make John Bull well acquainted with John Chinaman.

FEATHERSTONHAUGH'S AMERICA.

[Conclusion.]

SUCH sanguinary scenes as were described in our last *Gazette* remind us of Lynch law; of the origin of which Mr. F. says:

"The first Judge Lynch was a miller and a justice of the peace in the backwoods; he had been there from his youth, before the western counties of Virginia were organised, was a man of experience and sagacity, and was acquainted with every thing that was passing around him. When a 'spree' of a desperate kind occurred, and the atrocity that had been committed had made it necessary for the many to combine against a suspected individual, the first step was to apprehend and take him before the judge, where all the circumstances of the case, and the proofs to support the charge, were entered into. If his honour saw that the evidence was not strong enough to send him to the seat of government with any hope of conviction, and that all the trouble and expense would go for nothing, besides giving a triumph to the accused party in treating him to a sight of the great world, and letting him come back white-washed into the bargain, he used to say, 'Gentlemen, I swear this won't work no haw, fix it haw you will; and I reckon the shortest way is to git it out of him with the kayw-hide.' The party was now stripped to his skin, and tied securely, with his face and breast close to a tree, so as to exhibit the best possible view of his dorsal proportions. Two stout fellows, armed with knotted thongs, made from a tough hide, were then appointed to keep the flies from his upper and lower parts, and the judge stood by to direct operations. His invariable rule was to order the administration of twenty smart strokes of the thongs before 'axing no questions'; this he said 'somehow stirred the man up, and put him upon thinking they were in earnest.' Now, although the judge was regarded as a consistent person, and always ordered neither more nor less than twenty strokes to be given, yet it somehow always struck the party most interested in counting them that he got forty instead of twenty; a discrimination which perhaps escaped the judge, who might have imagined—the practice being to apply twenty to the shoulders and twenty somewhat lower down—that the suffering component parts would each keep the arithmetical account, and not the entire man. It certainly had the effect of producing a perfect conviction that they were 'in earnest,' accompanied with a corresponding strain of piteous entreaty to stop. His honour would then mercifully ask him 'haw many more would you like to have before you've made up your mind; for thar's a heap a-coming, I tell you.' But the more the poor devil prayed them to believe he was innocent, and to cease tormenting him, the more they seemed disposed to believe him guilty, and to increase his tortures: if the judge benevolently ordered him ten strokes, the recipient—such is the discrepancy betwixt theory and practice—knew very well that they would come to twenty, and so in proportion at every renewal of his flagellation. Now as it is of the very essence of crime to seek a present apparent advantage at the risk of bringing down a future terrible evil, so a deferred death loses its terrors with individuals drawn from the lowest classes when compared with present sufferings that appear interminable, and thus the unfortunate devils under Lynch law sooner or later generally said, in answer to the judge's kind inquiry—which interrogatory he called cross-questioning—'Haw many more do you reckon you can stand now?' 'Why, judge, sartin no man alive can stand this long.' 'Then, gentlemen,' the judge would tenderly say, 'jist give him three leetle wales to help it out of the hopper,' alluding to the grain that sometimes stuck fast in the hopper of his mill, which he thus

facetiously compared to the confession that seemed to stick in the man's throat. A confession was generally the result; and thus the sagacity and summary process of Judge Lynch raised his name to the pinnacle of fame, and to this day makes Lynch law the terror of those evil doers who, in those countries where there is no other law, would be without the fear of any thing to control their actions."

There is a wonderful story of a buffalo-hunt, the furious animal dodging the hunter about a tree for six mortal hours, worse than the bull in the exhibition noticed in our critique on the Royal Academy Exhibition; and a sad debasing picture is drawn of New Orleans, whilst Mobile, on the contrary, is described as one of the most reputable and agreeable places in the United States. Our author saw something of the Creek Indians, and his account is pitiable:

"The lands had been surveyed, the chiefs who had deluded the nation into the treaty had been well provided for, and the rest, with very few exceptions, had transferred their rights to white men. I was now to be a witness, not of the ruins of a Palmyra or a Babylon, but of a nation of famous warriors degraded to the lowest pitch of drunkenness and despair, and surrounded in every direction by the least industrious and most dissolute white men on the continent of America."—"Every thing as we advanced into the Creek country announced the total dissolution of order. Indians of all ages were wandering about listlessly, the poorest of them having taken to begging, and when we came in sight would come and importune us for money. Some of them, imitating the whites, were doing their best to prey upon each other; for we frequently saw squaws belonging to some of the chiefs seated by the roadside at a log or rude table, with a bottle of whiskey and a glass to supply their unfortunate countrymen who had any thing to give in return, if it was only the skin of an animal. These women seemed to laugh at the distresses of the others, and gave us a great deal of their eloquence when we passed them; but fortunately we did not understand what they said, though by their lifting up the whisky-bottle it was evident they wanted to make something out of us also. In other places we met young men in the flower of their age, dressed in ragged hunting-shirts and turbans, staggering along, and often falling to the ground, with empty bottles in their hands: in this wretched state of things, with the game almost entirely destroyed, it is evident that nothing will soon be left to those who have begged themselves but to die of want, or to emigrate; a step they are so very averse to take, that in their desperation they have already committed some murders."

We have not meddled with the scientific portion of this work, so full of valuable geological information, and shall merely mention one fact on the Black River, where Mr. F., "after travelling a few miles over a kind of ridgy country—sometimes upon calcareo-siliceous beds, at others upon siliceous rocks—came to one small ridge, which he found almost composed of millions of tons of the very best gun-flint, equal in quality to the chalk-flint of Europe; a substance unknown in the United States, there being no chalk-beds hitherto discovered there."

In closing the book, we may express our regret that an English gentleman travelling so widely over America should have so many unfavourable and so few favourable circumstances to tell. We wish we could think his stories were coloured; but there is such a stamp of truth upon them, and so evidently a fair and candid disposition, that we cannot do so. What,

then, should be the result? Why, that instead of resentment and abuse of Britishers as a *quid pro quo*, the better orders in America should set seriously to work to induce reforms in the most offensive practices. *Fas est ab hoste* (if they will have it so) *doceri*; and the time, we trust, is not distant when this will be felt, and shame will operate even upon the most reckless of those who bring disgrace upon the whole of their country. At present the temper is different, and not of so promising a nature. To inflame the lowest and worst passions of the mob seems to be the aim of many writers who ought to entertain the feelings of gentility and justice. But we see such infamous falsehoods printed about Mr. Dickens, Mr. Moore, and every body and matter English, that we are really lost in amazement at the hardihood of the lies and the venom of their inventors. They are, however, too contemptible for farther notice. It is some relief to forget them in the laugh at a piece of good-humoured satire on themselves which we recently met with in an American paper.

"The Death of Jabez Dollar.

The congress met, the day was wet, Van Buren took the chair,
On either side the statesman pride of far Kentuck was there;
With a grey frown there sat Colhoun, and slowly in his cheek
His quid he thrust, and slaked the dust, as Webster rose to speak.
Upon that day near gifted Clay a youthful member sat,
And like a free American upon the floor he spat;
Then turning round to Clay he said, and wiped his manly chin,
'What kind of locofoco's that that wears the painter's skin?'
'Young man,' quoth Clay, 'avoid the way of Slick of Tennessee,
Of gougers fierce the eyes that pierce, the fiercest gouger he;
He chews and spits as there he sits, and whittles at the chairs,
And in his hand for deadly strife a Bowie-knife he bears.
Avoid that knife! In frequent strife its blade, so long and thin,
Has found itself a resting-place his rival's ribs within.
But coward fear came never near young Jabez Dollar's heart.
'Were he an alligator, I would rile him pretty smart!'
Then up he rose, and clear'd his nose, and look'd towards the chair,
He saw the stately stripes and stars—our country's flag was there!
His heart beat high, with savage cry upon the floor he sprang,
Then raised his wrist, and shook his fist, and spoke his first harangue.
'Who sold the nutmegs made of wood, the clocks that wouldn't figure,
Who grinn'd the bark off gum-trees dark, the everlasting nigger?
For twenty cents, ye congress gents, through 'tarnity I'll kick
That man, I guess, though nothing less than 'coun-fessed Colonel Slick!'
The colonel smiled—with frenzy wild his very beard wax'd blue;
His shirt it could not hold him so wrathily riled he grew;
He foams and frets, his knife he whets upon his seat below;
He sharpens it on either side, and whittles at his toe.
'Oh! waken, snakes, and walk your chalks!' he cried, with ire elate,
'Darn my old mother, but I will in wild cats whip my weight!
Oh! 'tarnal death, I'll spoil your breath, young Dollar, and your chaffing,
Look to your ribs—for here is that will tickle them without laughing!'
His knife he raised, with fury crazed he sprang across the hall,
He cut a caper in the air, he stood before them all;
He never stopp'd to look or think if he the deed should do,
But spinning sent the president, and on young Dollar flew.

They met—they closed—they sunk—they rose—in
vain young Dollar strove;
For, like a streak of lightning greased, the infuriate
colonial drove
His Bowie-blade deep in his side, and to the ground
they roll'd,
And, drench'd in gore, wheel'd o'er and o'er, lock'd in
each other's hold.

With fury dumb, with nail and thumb, they struggled
and they thrust;
The red blood ran from Dollar's side like rain upon
the dust;
He nerved his might for one last spring, and, as he
sunk and died,
Reft of an eye, his enemy fell groaning at his side.
Thus did he fall within the hall of congress, that
brave youth!
The Bowie-knife hath quench'd his life of valour and
of truth;
And still among the statesmen throng at Washington
they tell,
How nobly Dollar gouged his man—how gallantly he
fell!

A favourite axiom is twice quoted in this work, which might have been chosen as its epigraph, "*Quand il n'y a pas de choix, tout est bon*;" and on no other ground can we discover the good [bon] in these illustrations of a shocking condition of society in the remote parts, and of many nasty customs even in the most populous cities of longest existence. The model republic is certainly not standing the test so well as it did some years ago. Time must try whether the evil will increase, and when a better order of things will ultimately spring out of it.

The Complete Concordance to Shakspeare: being a Verbal Index to all the Dramatic Works of the Poet. By Mrs. Cowden Clarke. Parts I. II. pp. 36. London, C. Knight and Co.

ISSUING in monthly parts, of which eighteen are promised to complete this desirable literary labour, we have here the first fruits of Mrs. Clarke's devotedness to her task for twelve long years. In triple columns, the references are numerous and perfect: with less text than Ayscough or Twiss, but still sufficient to indicate the place where the seeker may find them. It is, indeed, strictly, an index; of which the amplitude may be guessed when we state, that where Ayscough gives to the word "bed" thirteen references, Mrs. Clarke gives about two hundred and fifty; and for "beg" the proportions are nearly similar—Ayscough five, and our author more than a hundred! From this comparison the utility of the new publication may be understood; and the extent of the toil to render it so truly comprehensive, especially as the performance of a female pen, be justly appreciated by all (and that is all the world) who love the Swan of Avon, and may require, from time to time, to discover some passage of beauty whose locality has escaped their memory.

The Camden Magazine; or, Archeological Chronicle. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4. Pp. 64.
s acknowledged. It seems to have got together a great variety of matters, and of very different qualities.

The Middle System of Teaching the Classics. By the Rev. H. P. Haughton, B.A., &c. Pp. 117. London, J. W. Parker.

Nor denying the practical utility of the tuition recommended by Mr. Haughton, we must offer a protest against one of his canons in regard to our language of the present day, which is the offspring of silly ignorance affecting to be better informed than common usage. He refers (pages 8, 9, &c.) to the Latin language to give the student clear and distinct ideas of English words derived from that source, evidently falling into the common error of deriving thousands of words from the Latin, which,

in fact, came into our mother tongue through the Normans and the Conquest. The Normans had most of them from the Romans; but we had them from the Normans; and this shews the folly of spelling and writing "honor" for "honour," "favor" for "favour," and so forth, forgetting the Norman origin (to us), and fancying they were doing a fine piece of etymology in going back to a first source instead of the real and actual intervening channel. In the same way some geese have almost succeeded in transforming Dover into Dovor: it was full time that the old Saxon Folkestone should supersede it.

These, however, are remarks by the by; and we have to say that this is a cute and "suggestive" educational treatise.

Arithmetic, its Principles and Practice, &c. By J. W. Kavanagh. Pp. 266. Dublin, Machen; London, Houlston and Stoneman.

MR. KAVANAGH is an able teacher, and his system appears to be a very good one.

The School and College Virgil. With copious English Notes, by R. Galbraith. Enlarged, &c. pp. 497. Dublin, same.

A SECOND edition considerably improved by two scholarly editors, Mr. H. Edwardes, A.M., and Mr. G. B. Wheeler, A.B. The notes are both copious and excellent.

The French Teacher. Third Series. By Désiré Pontet. The same.

ENCOURAGED by the success of two preceding series, M. Pontet has here conveyed us farther into the intimate knowledge of the French tongue. It is cleverly done.

The Hand-Book of English Grammar. Pp. 151. The same.

A CONCISE and clear mode of tuition expounded, with a good glossary in addition.

An Analysis of Alvary's Prosody, 2d edition, also deserves to be noticed with praise.

Introduction to a Scientific System of Mythology, by C. O. Müller, author of the *History and Antiquities of the Doric Race.* Translated from the German, by John Leitch. 8vo, pp. 353. London, Longmans.

A VERY learned and valuable work in the original, and translated in the most satisfactory manner. Into the darkness of Grecian mythology M. Müller has essayed to penetrate, with a torch composed of many materials, best calculated to shed a light over the mysterious gloom. Dim and uncertain as many of the recesses must for ever remain, it is no small praise to acknowledge that, from the stores of classic antiquity, he has illuminated many points previously most obscure; and enabled us to trace early colonisation—the connexion of families, tribes, and people—the conjunction and intertransition of the historical with the mythological eras—the impersonations of natural phenomena—the effects of symbolism—the astronomical influences—the additions and modifications of later times, and other circumstances, with a clearness hardly to be expected from so remote and so perplexing an investigation. The local and first forms of the most celebrated legends are looked for; and then their transmission to other localities, and their interpolation with other myths, are noticed. Whether physical, ethical, historical, or philosophical, in their origin—employing the imagination of poets, the inventions of priests, and the allegories of all leading and teaching individuals—it is a high study to endeavour to acquire a true understanding of these extraordinary traditions; and without entering into any opinion on the various explanations supported by M. Müller,

we will only say that he is an indefatigable and deeply read inquirer in the field, which has also been industriously explored by Heyne, Voss, Buttmann, Creuzer, and others of his learned countrymen.

Frederick the Great, his Court and Times. Edited, with an Introduction, by Thomas Campbell, Esq. 2 vols. Colburn.

FOUR volumes condensed into two, and yet much superior to the former edition, ought to be well received. The text has been carefully revised, and the whole much improved. The *questio vexata* of editorship, no longer puzzling the world, we are happy to re-express our hearty approbation of this history. It is impartial, and has gathered its fund of information from many of the best sources, and not a few hardly known, if known at all to English readers. If there was any heaviness before, it is now lightened; and a more agreeable and intelligent work on the subjects of which it treats cannot be put into the hands of those who love the union of the pleasant with the instructive.

Ecclesiastica; or, the Church, her Schools, and her Clergy, by E. M. Roose, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq. Corrected and enlarged by the Rev. H. Davis, M.A. 8vo, pp. 448. Rivingtons.

A SECOND edition of a copious and most useful work. It presents a gratifying picture of the Anglican church, its collateral institutions, charities, and widely-spread influence. There is also an account of the Protestant church of Ireland, written strenuously on behalf of that faith and against its Roman Catholic adversary. Upon such points we speak not, but merely of the comprehensive information furnished by *Ecclesiastica*, which is deserving of great commendation.

A brief Description of the Characters of Minerals: forming a familiar Introduction to the Science of Mineralogy. By E. J. Chapman. 8vo, pp. 129. London, Balliere.

MINERALOGY is a branch of study which has for some years been at a discount in this country; and it will, there is little doubt, continue to be so, till the "chemical system" is introduced. Mr. Chapman's *Practical Mineralogy* has been well spoken of; and we wish we could speak as favourably as we could desire of the present little work: but while sixty pages are given to external characters, and forty-one to the blow-pipe, only eight pages are devoted to qualitative mineral analysis; and on this subject we think Rose's treatise, which has been translated into English, is more detailed than Fresenius's, and comprises quantitative analysis. It is but justice to the author, however, to say, that he is compendious and brief; and the present treatise ought, we think, to be attached to the *Practical Mineralogy*, the bulk of which it would not increase inconveniently. An introduction to mineralogy in its chemical and geological relations, which would give to the science its true importance, and make a philosophical pursuit of what Mohs, Werner, Jameson, and their followers, have made a study of fractures, shapes, and colours, is a great desideratum.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

March 21.—The Marquis of Northampton, president, in the chair. "A description of certain Belemnites, preserved, with a great proportion of their soft parts, in the Oxford clay at Christian Malford, Wilts," by Mr. R. Owen, was read. After alluding to the various opinions promulgated by different authors respecting the nature and affinities of this extinct animal,

Prof. Owen adverts more especially to the discovery of the ink-bag of the Belemnite, which was published in the *Zoological Transactions*, vol. ii., and in the *Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology* (art. "Cephalopoda"). This discovery led him, on the strength of deductions from the physiological relations of this organ, to remove the Belemnite from the *Folythalamacea* of De Blainville, and place it in the higher order of the naked Cephalopoda. The structure of the shell is next discussed, and the spathose dart, or guard, is proved to be the result of original organisation, both by its microscopic structure and by the fact that the chambers of the phragmocone have not been infiltrated by mineral substance in any of the specimens described: the name *phragmocone* being applied to the chambered and siphonated conical division of the compound shell of the Belemnite; and the term *alveolus* being restricted, in the present paper, to the socket or cavity at the base of the guard, in which the phragmocone is lodged. A detailed description is given of the sheath of the phragmocone and of the structure of the chambers. The state of preservation of the present specimens has enabled the author to describe the form and extent of the mantle, its continuation over the exterior of the shell, and the arrangement of its muscular fibres. The animal is provided with two lateral fins of a semi-oval figure, which are attached to the middle of the mantle, in advance of the spathose dart. The muscular fibres of the fins, the infundibulum and its muscles, are next described; and also the head, the eyes, which are large and sessile, and the cephalic arms, which are eight in number; together with traces of two slender superadded tentacula. The ordinary arms are furnished with a double alternate row of sharp horny hooks, as in some existing species of *Oncychoteuthis*, but the arms are relatively longer. Their muscular structure is traced in the fossil specimens, and compared with that in the recent Decapoda. The ultimate, or primitive fibres of the muscles of the Belemnite agree in size with those in the *Oncychoteuthis*; but the character of the transverse strie, which is feebly developed in the primitive muscular fibre of the Cephalopods, is not preserved in the fossil. Of the interior organs of the Belemnite, besides the ink-bag and duct, which had been before discovered by Drs. Buckland and Agassiz, the remains of the horny lining of the gizzard are preserved in the present fossils. Thus the deduction that the higher, or dibranchiate type of Cephalopodal organisation is necessarily associated with the presence of the atramental apparatus, is established by the demonstration, in these fossil Belemnites, of a fleshy mantle, enclosing the shell, and provided with a pair of muscular fins, of large and sessile eyes, and of few but large and complex cephalic arms. The author concludes by pointing out the more immediate affinities of the Belemnite, and shewing that it combines characteristics which are now divided amongst distinct genera: as, for example, first, a complex internal shell, divisible into the same principal parts as that of the *Sepia*, but one of which has, secondly, the same essential chambered structure as the shell of the *Spirula*; thirdly, uncinated cephalic arms, as in the *Oncychoteuthis*; and lastly, an advanced position of rounded fins, as in the *Spirula* and *Rossia*. The paper is illustrated by drawings of the specimens described, with microscopic views of the shell and muscular tissue, and a restoration of the Belemnite according to the data afforded by the present fossils.

April 18.—The president in the chair. Read:

1. Note in addition to Mr. Gassiot's paper "On the water-battery." The author here describes an instrument which he has recently constructed, and by means of which he is enabled with great facility, and without the aid of Zamboni's pile, to test the tension in a single series of the voltaic battery.

2. "On the production of ozone by chemical means," by Prof. Schönbein, in a letter to Prof. Faraday. The author conceives that of the two gaseous principles which are simultaneously produced during the slow action of phosphorus upon atmospheric air, and which have opposite voltaic characters, that which exerts electropositive properties is composed of vaporised phosphorus, conjoined with particles of phosphatic acid; and the other, which is electronegative, is identical with ozone, or the odoriferous principle, which is disengaged at the positive electrode during the electrolysis of water. His opinion is founded on the odour of the one not being distinguishable from that of the other.

3. "Contributions to terrestrial magnetism," No. 6, by Lieut.-Colonel Sabine. This portion of the series consists of observations made on board her Majesty's ships Erebus and Terror, from June 1841 to August 1842, in the antarctic expedition under the command of Captain Sir J. C. Ross. It comprises the result of the operations conducted during the second year of the expedition, when it proceeded early in July 1841 from Hobarton to Sydney, and thence to the Bay of Islands in New Zealand, remaining there till November, and reaching in February 1842, in lat. 78°, the icy barrier which had stopped their progress in the preceding year. Quitting the antarctic circle in March, and keeping nearly in the 60th parallel, they crossed the whole breadth of the Southern Pacific Ocean to the Falkland Islands, where they arrived in April 1842. On a general review of the magnetic declination in the southern hemisphere, the phenomena are found to present the same obvious and decided features of a duplicate system as those of the northern. Particular attention is given to those lines traversed by the ship's course where the needle attains its maximum declination, whether easterly or westerly, as affording valuable data for the estimation of secular variations. The results obtained by the present expedition confirm the conclusion deducible from those of previous navigators, viz. that the spaces in the Southern Pacific, distinguished by certain magnetic characters, undergo a movement of translation, of which the general direction is from east to west; a direction which is the opposite to that in which a similar change takes place in the corresponding regions of the northern hemisphere, viz. in the Siberian quarter, where the secular movement is from west to east.

April 25.—"On the production of ozone by chemical means," by Prof. Schönbein, in a second letter to Prof. Faraday. The author adduces further evidence in support of the opinions he advanced in his former communication relative to the identity of the odoriferous principles which are disengaged during electric discharges in common air, during the electrolysis of water, and during the slow action of phosphorus upon atmospheric air. This principle, termed ozone, he regards as being a simple body, and a constituent of azote, which he believes to be a compound of hydrogen and ozone; and he explains the disengagement of this latter element, which he considers as analogous in its chemical character to chlorine, by the partial decomposition of azote, in consequence of its hydrogen combining with oxygen, in the several processes

above-mentioned during which the ozone makes its appearance.—"On the existence of phosphoric acid in rocks of igneous origin," by Mr. G. Fownes. The author has, by careful analysis, ascertained the presence of phosphoric acid in various rocks of igneous origin. Those which he examined were principally the following; namely, 1. The fine white porcelain clay of Dartmoor, resulting from the disintegration of the felspar of the granite of that district. 2. Dark grey vesicular lava from the Rhine, used at Cologne as a building-stone. 3. White trachyte from the Drachenfels, near Bonn. 4. Dark red, spongy, scoriaceous lava from Vesuvius. 5. Compact, dark green basalt, or toad-stone, from Cavedale, Derbyshire. 6. Dark blackish green basalt from the neighbourhood of Dudley, termed *Rowley-ragg*. 7. Ancient porphyritic lava, containing numerous crystals of hornblende, from Vesuvius. 8. A specimen of tufa, or volcanic mud, also from Vesuvius. The author infers, from his analysis, that phosphoric acid is a very usual component part of volcanic rocks, and is a principal source of the remarkable fertility possessed by soils derived from their disintegration.

May 2.—1. "Ranges of the barometer and sympiesometer on board H.M.S. Alfred, in the River Plate, between the 1st of July and the 31st of Dec. 1843," communicated by Capt. Beaufort. This paper is a register of the results of daily observations of the heights of the barometer, sympiesometer, and thermometer, the direction of the wind, and state of the weather during the above period.

2. "Remarks on the amalgamation of silver ores in Mexico; with an account of some new combinations of copper, oxygen, and chlorine," by Mr. J. C. Bowring. The process employed in Mexico for amalgamating ores containing sulphurets of silver, and which consists in adding to them a solution of bichloride of copper with chloride of sodium, is explained by Sonnenschildt, Humboldt, and Boussingault, on the supposition that a chloride of silver is formed at the same time that the sulphur combines with the copper. The author calls in question the truth of this theory, and proposes certain modifications of the process by the employment of a combination of deutoxide of copper with the bichloride, until an oxy-chloride is formed, and then adding finely precipitated copper, by which a salt of a brick-red colour is obtained, insoluble in water, and at a temperature of 200° Fahr. speedily reducing sulphuret of silver to the metallic state.

3. "Experimental evidence in support of the secretion of carbon by animals," by Mr. R. Rigg. The author finds that the mean of the results of different experimentalists as to the quantity of carbon excreted by respiration from adults, during twenty-four hours, is 5963 grains; whereas the weight of the carbon contained in the whole of the food, both solid and liquid, received into the body during the same period, as ascertained by the analysis of each article of diet, made by the author, falls very short of that quantity; varying in different cases from 3002 to 4800 grains. The same inference is drawn from experiments made on a mouse, weighing 181 grains, confined in a wire trap for twenty-eight days; during which time it consumed food containing 544.5 grains of carbon, and gave out, in the respired air, 741.2 grains of carbon, being 196.7 grains more than it had received; and it had also gained in absolute weight 27 grains. The conclusion which the author deduces from these experiments is, that carbon is actually formed or secreted by animals.

May 9.—"On the hyssop of Scripture" by

Dr. Royle. Many attempts have at different times been made by various authors to identify the plant which, in our authorised version of the Scriptures, is translated *hyssop*. The author enters at large into the history of the speculations of former writers on this subject; and, after an elaborate investigation, is led to the conclusion that this plant is the *capparis spinosa* of Linnæus, or caper-plant, a shrub abundantly met with in the south of Europe, where it appears to be indigenous, and also generally on the islands and coasts of the Mediterranean, as well as in Lower Egypt and Syria.

CIVIL ENGINEERS.

June 18.—The president in the chair. A paper by Mr. Braidwood gave the results of his experience as to the best means of rendering large supplies of water available in cases of fire, and on the application of manual power to the working of fire-engines. The results of a series of experiments were given, shewing that the idea of extinguishing fires by jets from water-mains without the use of fire-engines would not succeed; they also proved the necessity of placing the plugs on the mains, and not on the service-pipes, where that could be done. The details were then given of the mode of obtaining water from pipes or mains, and the advantages or disadvantages both of the plug and fire-cock were fully entered into. The author then stated that the best mode of using manual power was by applying the greatest aggregate amount of power to the lightest and smallest machine; that the reciprocating motion was to be preferred to the rotary; and that a fire-engine with two 7-inch cylinders and 8-inch stroke, weighing 17½ cwt., was the most advantageous size that could be adopted.—In the discussion which ensued, Mr. J. Simpson recommended the use of screw-cocks rather than plug-cocks, as the latter were apt to become set and to be injured, as well as having in general too contracted a waterway. He also disapproved of the use of jets direct from the mains, stating them to be wasteful and not efficient, and that in almost every case they had failed, except under very peculiar circumstances.

In the paper by Mr. A. Murray, the author considered in the first portion the quantity of atmospheric air chemically necessary for the complete combustion of a given quantity of coal, examining the proportion necessary for the inflammable gases and for the solid carbon, shewing the large excess of air which would be required if the gases were not ignited until they had passed into the flues of the boiler, on account of their admixture with the carbonic acid gas generated in the furnace. The question of the velocity with which the products of combustion pass off was next considered. The practical recommendations given in the paper were, that the supply of air should be as free as possible; the entrance into the ash-pit should not be less than one-fourth part of the area of the firegrate; the depth of the ash-pit should be about 2½ feet, no advantage being found to result for the combustion of the coal from its being deeper; the space between the fire-bars should be about 7-16th of an inch, but that depth should be regulated by the kind of coal used: for any kind of coal it should not be less than three-eighths of an inch, nor more than half an inch; the fire-bars were recommended to be made as thin as was consistent with the required strength, half an inch in width had been found to be a good proportion. The space in the furnace above the fire-bars was recommended to be made large, about three cubic feet to each superficial foot of firegrate, when

such an amount could be obtained. The proper area of the flue was next considered, with reference to the bulk of the products of combustion and their velocity, shewing that the area requisite for the quantity chemically required was found to be much too small, and that in practice it should not be less than two square inches for the products of combustion from each pound of coal consumed in the grate per hour. Taking a furnace in which 13 lbs. of coal were burned on each square foot of firegrate per hour (which was stated to be a very usual rate of combustion in steam-boilers), the area of the flue to every superficial foot of the grate would be twenty-six square inches. The area of the chimney was recommended to be three-fourths that of the flue. The mode of conducting the flue to the chimney, and the angles formed in its passage, were also carefully considered. The time occupied by the gases in passing through the flues of a boiler, from the instant of their generation to that of their reaching the chimney, was shewn not to be of importance, provided the incandescent gases were so subdivided that all the particles were brought into contact with the boiler, and were made to part with their caloric, as was the object in the construction of locomotive and other tubular boilers. The amount of heating surface recommended was in the proportion of eighteen square feet to each foot of firegrate where the combustion was carried on at the rate of 13 lbs. per square foot per hour, though a larger amount might be employed in land-boilers, where there was no objection against cooling down the products of combustion in a greater degree. The principles were stated to be applicable to all kinds of boilers used either for land or for marine purposes.

The following papers were announced to be read at the next meeting:—"Suggestions for the introduction of constructions to retain the sides of deep cuttings in clays or other uncertain soils," by Prof. Hosking; "Description of the harbour of Sarclet (Caithness), and of the machinery used in 1834 for rebuilding the harbour-works," by J. Bremner; "Description of a piling engine proposed to prepare foundations for harbours and lighthouses on sand-banks," by J. Bremner.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

April 1.—Mr. G. Newport, president, in the chair. Mr. Stevens exhibited portions of bark of elm-trees, shewing the mining habits of a small species of *Hylesinus*. Mr. Westwood exhibited specimens of a fine new species of *Inca* from tropical America (*I. Sommeri*, W.); likewise a case of insects received from Mr. E. Downes, containing various new and interesting insects, accompanied by notes on the habits of a species of *Cassida*, another on a *Cercopis* called the cow-ant, and on several species of parasitic *Hymenoptera* reared from the cocoons of a small moth. Also drawings of the transformations of an Indian *Anthrenus*, and of *Pausanias bifasciatus*, forwarded by Capt. Boys. Likewise specimens of a species of *Cossonus* found in vast numbers imbedded in a black mass of brittle matter discovered in the interior of a barrow recently opened in Lancashire, and accompanied by notes from the Rev. Mr. Sibson. The following memoirs were read:—continuation of a memoir on the Australian *Chrysomelide*, by Mr. W. W. Saunders; continuation of a memoir on exotic *Lucanide*, by Mr. Westwood.

May 6.—The president in the chair. Mr. Stevens exhibited a specimen of *Yponomeuta sedilla*, a species new to this country; and Mr. S. Stevens specimens of *Lytea leucographa* and

Dendrophilus Sheppardi, two very rare British species. The following memoirs were read:—continuation of a memoir on the Australian *Chrysomelide*, by Mr. Saunders; description of the habits of *Plectropteron Diane*, a large Indian moth, by Captain Hutton; description of the eggs and young of *Sialis lutararia*, by Mr. W. F. Evans, who exhibited living specimens of the larvæ in a very young state; notes on the habits of some species of *Osmia*, a genus of bees which occasionally form their nests in the shells of snails, by Mr. F. Smith, who exhibited specimens of the insects and their nests.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

OXFORD, June 14.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Doctor in Divinity.—Rev. E. Greene, fellow of Magdalene College.

Doctor in Medicine.—A. Tawke, Trinity College, grand compounder.

Bachelor in Medicine.—H. Munro, Oriel College.

Bachelor in Civil Law.—Rev. C. L. S. Clarke, fellow of New College.

Masters of Arts.—T. Evetts, Corpus Christi College; T. A. Falkner, St. John's College; W. R. S. Fitz-Gerald, Oriel College; Rev. J. Humfrey, Trin. College, grand compounders; D. P. Chase, fellow of Oriel College; T. G. Peyton, Rev. H. A. Bowles, St. John's College; H. W. Forester, Rev. B. L. Bampfield, Trinity Coll.; M. Terry, Rev. A. Clifton, Rev. B. Hallows, Lincoln College; W. B. Turner, J. C. Fisher, Queen's College; Rev. W. H. Jones, Rev. J. Hemsted, Magd. Hall; Rev. C. W. Heaton, Rev. H. W. W. Jones, Rev. H. S. Hawkins, Jesus College; Rev. S. Shedden, Pembroke College; Rev. W. Ewart, Exeter College; Rev. W. Jackson, fellow of Worcester; A. T. W. Shadwell, Rev. W. Tylden, E. Round, Balliol College.

Bachelors of Arts.—R. S. Redfern, F. T. Pearson, Queen's Coll.; T. W. Were, St. Mary Hall; G. Morier, Christ Church; R. A. Curry, St. John's College; E. Spooner, R. B. Turner, Exeter College; R. Sawyer, Merton College.

CAMBRIDGE, June 13.—The following degree was conferred:—

Bachelor in Divinity.—Rev. W. Aldrit, Magdalene College.

THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.—A droll-enough outcry has been raised about the Emperor Nicholas's donations to the Nelson and Wellington monuments; and the drollery is augmented by the clamour coming from those who are so fond of proclaiming (the wholesome truth) that "literature and the fine arts belong to no nation." Having escaped imperial recognition, they seem as if they could not a-bear boxing-days, except among the scavengers at Christmas. But more sober and rational people will view in such friendly cosmopolitan acts much to approve and admire, as cultivating a beneficent international spirit, a universal liberality most favourable to the peace of mankind, and a disposition to foster and encourage, wheresoever they are met, those pursuits which are directed to the improvement and refinement, not of one country, but of the world. Was it a disgrace to Germany when England poured a noble public subscription into it to relieve its sufferings and promote its weal? How narrow is the philanthropy of our pseudo-philanthropists, how poor their philosophy, and how confined the limits of their love for the arts and the literature of the age! We say nothing of the natural feeling of the Emperor for the heroic in general, and for the men in particular who fought the same battle with his father against a despotism which was partially extinguished in the fires of Moscow; but we do say, that never could the gold flowing from the Ural mountains be more worthily employed than in testifying the desire of a foreign potentate to join in a tribute of honour and gratitude to conduct and valour which achieved so much in rescuing Europe, as well as England, from impending slavery. We thank the Emperor, in the name of Great Britain, for this com-

munion of sentiment; and our national testimonials may raise their heads more proudly, and our national arts be more thankful, because of his co-operation, on enlarged principles, in elevating the one and cherishing the other.

Among his subsequent presents, we may notice that his imperial majesty, from an advanced stage of his journey homeward, sent by the Hon. C. A. Murray a superb gold and precious mounted snuff-box to Mr. George Catlin, as a proof of his approbation of that popular author's forthcoming "Portfolio of the Hunting Scenes and Amusements of the North American Indians," a copy of which his majesty took with him to beguile the tedium of even his rapid journey.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Geographical, 8½ P.M.
Tuesday.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ P.M.; Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.; Zoological, 8½ P.M.
Wednesday.—Geological, 8½ P.M.; Pharmaceutical, 9 P.M.
Thursday.—R. S. of Literature, 4 P.M.; Medicobotanical, 8 P.M.; British and Foreign Institute, 8½ P.M.
Friday.—Philological, 8 P.M.

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

No. 127. *Happy Hours.* W. D. Kennedy.—The painter of several familiar subjects of popular aspects has here given us a pleasing Italian scene *à fresco*, in which the figures are naturally disposed, and the landscape harmoniously appropriate. 482, by the same, is a humorous but rather exaggerated bit of tea-table *scen. mag.*, in which two elderly ladies seem to engage the tearing of absent reputations.

No. 180. *Charles II. at New Shoreham after the Battle of Worcester.* C. Jacquard.—The fisherman's wife, recognising the king, throws herself on her knees before him, and craves a blessing for her children. The moonlight and atmosphere are rather overdone, and the reflection upon his majesty's features too strong. 188, *Charles at Holmby, taken prisoner by Col. Joyce*, the companion, is a better picture for action and effect. Joyce, throwing open the window, and shewing his military force, is skillfully painted.

Nos. 200 and 201, *Landscapes*, by J. Wilson, jun., are deserving of notice as natural productions of the English school.

No. 202. *The Raising of Jairus's Daughter.* W. Poncia, is one of the most meritorious works of the year. The child awaking to consciousness is beautifully expressive, and forms a centre round which we could wish the other characters were yet more worthy to appear. But the artist has been eminently happy only in this one. The Christ is common-place, the father conventional, and the countenance of the mother of a vulgar cast. We repeat, however, that it is a fine picture, and might rank with many time-valued efforts of the same sacred class.

No. 221. *Motherly Fears.* F. S. Cary.—A trite subject, and not treated in a way to upraise it.

No. 245. *Portrait of C. Pott, Esq.* S. Lawrence.—A warm well-coloured portrait, with others, doing much credit to the artist's talents.

No. 250. W. S. P. Henderson.—A graceful and touching female form, in a desponding posture, and with looks turned sadly on the ground.

No. 274. *The Reverie.* H. D. H., is another small and very pretty performance by an amateur hand.

No. 279. *Portrait of Dr. Blakiston, of Birmingham General Hospital.* W. C. T. Dobson—

does credit to provincial art; is a firm and well-executed whole length, well draped, and in a good attitude.

No. 293. *A small portrait of Mr. Baumann, the celebrated Musician*, by F. Peake, and an exceedingly striking likeness of the honest German countenance.

No. 302. *The Gypsy Camp*, a picturesque and skilful composition by F. E. V., another of the honorary contributors whose productions adorn the gallery.

No. 304. *The Medway, with Upnor Castle: Evening.* E. W. Cooke.—A charming landscape; and 469, another of the Scheldt. Both are replete with nature; the waters liquid; and the chief features of the view, being shipping or buildings, selected with fine taste, and executed in an admirable style.

No. 307. *Landscape.* F. Watts, is too high hung to allow of inspection. At the distance, it appears to be an elaborate and able painting.

[We may here state that many pictures of, we doubt not, very considerable merit, are, from their position on the walls, taken out of the range of criticism. We say "we doubt not;" for if we may judge by some pieces returned to the artists who offered them for exhibition, there ought not to be much of mediocrity in these rooms.]

No. 327. *View on the Coast of Normandy.* Guddin.—We like to see foreign art interspersed with native. This is, however, but forced in tone, and is rather a contrast than a companion to natural representation. The handling of the pencil is artist-like.

No. 238. *Interview between John Knox and Queen Mary.* W. P. Frith.—Well composed. The darkling person of Knox, and the grief of the persecuted princess, embody McCre's text with vigour and truth. The kneeling superintendent is, perhaps, too close upon the queen, but the group is altogether a fair specimen of historical illustration. No. 491, from the everlasting *Vicar of Wakefield*, is characteristic, amusing, well coloured, and well expressed.

No. 347. *Lord Stanley.* F. R. Say.—A firmly executed likeness of this eminent statesman, and like No. 43, by the same, one of the best pieces of portraiture in the room.

No. 372. *Portrait of J. Gibson, Esq. R.A.*, by P. Williams, is of small size, but striking attraction. The artist in his Albanian cap impresses us with the idea of genius, though the costume is somewhat affected. It is brilliantly coloured.

No. 395. *Tasso reciting his Jerusalem Delivered to the Princess Leonora.* J. Hollins, A.—A poetical conception, and executed in a poetical manner. Tasso is, perhaps, to our taste, rather too fine a gentleman; but it must be owned, that the courtier garb was more likely to invest the visitor of royalty, than the abstract or ideal of a bard. The princess is truly touched with the romance of inspiration, and all the accessories are executed with the finish of the highest Dutch or Flemish art. No. 396, *Mrs. Holland*, and 476, *Three Dogs*, by the same, display great diversity of talent; and 557, from the *Vicar of Wakefield*, the Vicar and Olivia after one of Squire Thornhill's visits, is an affecting impersonation of the daughter.

No. 327. *The late Countess of Denbigh, &c. a Family Group*, by W. Bradley, possesses considerable power. The late countess appears pale and very tall, but her daughters and son are ably disposed in the composition, and for a life-sized picture, without much effect of colouring, this takes its place among the prominent and laudable of its class.

No. 410. *The Triumph of Columbus.* S. Drum-

mond, A.—Somewhat dramatic, but the canvass filled with character and action.

No. 420. *Boaz and Ruth.* H. N. O'Neil.—A clever piece reminding us of Mr. Uwins.

No. 425. *Lady Jane Grey summoned to her Execution.* E. D. Leahy.—In re-producing this cartoon in oil, the artist has displayed great talent. As it is one of the largest and most ambitious pictures in the exhibition, so is it one whose historical merits deserve very high praise. The hapless lady, absorbed in devotion as she kneels before the volume of holy consolation, is saint-like and beautiful. The poignant grief of her attendant gentlewomen is as an earthly pathos added to a tragedy in which the sorrows of the principal partake more of a heavenly nature. The armed summoners and ministers of death complete the tale in a masterly manner, and the whole design is most honourable to Mr. Leahy.

No. 427. *The Highland Lament.* A. Johnston.—The martial piper, and the dark figures in shadow, following, with weeping and wailing, are painted with characteristic truth, and the wild and desolate scenery is admirably in keeping with the sad funeral rites. The couplet illustrated is from the pen of poor Tom Campbell, whose loss we are now called on to deplore also with mourning hearts and unavailing lamentation.

No. 436. *A black boy tickling a Monkey with a feather*, by W. Carpenter, is an entertaining little *jeu-d'esprit*; funny enough for a laugh. Thus do the tears and the smiles of life rub shoulders together.

No. 448. May. G. F. Joseph, A.—Wants the voluptuousness of form which should belong to the gayest month of the year. We should reserve the thin and meagre for February.

No. 462. *Scene from the Devil on Two Sticks.* A. Egg.—A clever thing after the manner of Maclise.

No. 463. *Evening.* J. Martin.—Also an able performance, but after the manner of Danby.

No. 464. *Sketch of Hyde Park.* W. H. de Daubrawa.—Equestrians with their backs towards us, and the Duke readily recognised. It is a playful and fanciful little work.

No. 473. *The Hon. W. H. I. North.* A. R. Venables.—A handsome boy on a nice pony; and done in a very clever style. [We above alluded to rejected pictures; and we cannot refrain from mentioning one very like this, and of high pictorial merit, so treated, though painted by Mr. Salter, the eminent artist, to whom the world is indebted for the admired Waterloo Banquet, now engraving by Mr. Moon. This seems strange enough.]

No. 480. *Trial of the Earl of Strafford.* T. A. Woolnoth.—A perfect sea of heads, many of them said to be authentic portraits, but it is too high up for examination, and we can only speak to the general effect. Strafford and his accuser in the foreground come out well and distinctly from the masses, and give due interest to the scene.

No. 490. *Portrait of Muirhead.* By Himself.—Very like, and very warmly and sweetly coloured.

No. 511. *Salvator Rosa's first Cartoon on the walls of Certosa.* W. Simson.—A good painter's subject, and managed with a good painter's art. The astonishment of mother and sister at the exhibition on the wall, and the boy-artist's justifiable contentment, are happily rendered. In 504, *Gypsy Family*, by the same, like talent is displayed. The woman is too bright, and her face would not be the worse of a glaze to embrown it, as nuttlesberry would. The rest is extremely well done.

No. 522. *Rienzi in the Forum*. A. Elmore.—One of the finest compositions of the year, and belonging to the nobler class of art. Rienzi animates the forum in a masterly style, and in all around him we see the movement of mind, which the artist intended to express, from the central passion in his design. The correctness of drawing, the variety and harmony of costume contributing to a pleasing union of the whole, and the diversity of emotions with which the people are affected, render this altogether a very superior effort.

No. 523. *The Pear-tree Well, near Glasgow*. J. G. Gilbert.—A deeply romantic scene, with three bonny Scotch lasses as the Graces thereof. It is treated with equal taste and feeling, and is indeed a touching composition.

No. 552. *The Tomb of Christ, immediately after the Resurrection*. F. Dauby. A.—We cannot say we are satisfied with this work, from so eminent a hand. The angel is a familiar blaze of white light; and the two Marys are theatrical.

Of the Octagon Room we have little or nothing to add, simply because it is impossible there to see any thing as we ought, to be enabled to offer an opinion.

No. 562. *Fountain of Youth* (without a name) is a singular *mélange* of nude and clothed personages; but how employed, or what doing, we could not make out. Parts seem to be nicely painted.

No. 619. *Christ at the Tomb of Lazarus*. M. Claxton.—A sacred piece of much merit.

Drawings and Miniatures.

From No. 622 to No. 1046, above four hundred of all kinds, sorts, and sizes. Landscapes are here commingled with likenesses in little, and flowers with homely subjects, and cattle and comedies, and history and imagination, and enamels and water-colours, &c., &c. in admired confusion, which it would take a week to extricate.

No. 771 is an immense ivory of the Queen's Marriage by Sir W. Newton, who, in many portraits, together with Sir W. C. Ross and Mr. Thornburn, holds the triune sceptre over the realm of miniature. Other contributors adorn this department with no mean degree of skill, among whom F. Rochard, C. Durham, J. Hayter, V. Dartigueuave, Miss F. Corboux, O. Oakley, Miss Rainbach, and Mr. Dalton, may be mentioned as having executed the largest number. No. 890, *The Grandfather's Visit*, by G. E. Sintzenick, introduces a new name, and a natural and pleasing domestic incident. H. P. Bone's enamels ought not to be passed by, nor others of various claim; but we have no choice, and must crave pardon for any unjust silence.

With architecture and sculpture we trust to conclude in our next.

THE DRAMA.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—On Saturday night *Lucrezia Borgia* was performed for the first time this season, and Grisi, in almost more than full force, in the impassioned heroine, *Lucrezia*. Mario was also very fine in *Gennaro*, and Lablache in *Alfonso*; and Favanti (improved in her acting) sang the part of *Orysin* with considerable applause, though certainly not yet in *prima* style, or with sufficiently cultivated powers.—On Tuesday, Fanny Ellsler made her *pirouette* this season in the ballet of *Le Délire d'un Peintre*, and was greeted with the enthusiastic applause now given to dance or song.—On Thursday evening, *Don Carlos*, a new opera by M. Costa, was produced, and went off successfully. Mario was indisposed,

which detracted something from the effect; but Grisi, Fornasari, and Lablache, were in full force, and did every justice to the skilful composer, whose work, if not first rate, is generally very pleasing.

Haymarket.—The high expectations formed for the success of the "prize-comedy" were on Tuesday evening doomed to disappointment. The house was very crowded; and the partisans and opponents (for there were parties present prejudiced against the performance, whatever its merits may be) were exceedingly numerous, far outnumbering, we should think, the impartial few. Amongst the latter we class ourselves, although, from the high names that awarded the prize and sanctioned its adventitious title and production, inclined in its favour. This bias, however, lingered only through the earlier scenes, admitting two or three happy allusions to the state of the drama, and of its arena without the precincts of Westminster, and to exhibitions on the boards near to St. Stephen's. This bias, moreover, made us hopeful that something better was in store; but, alas, each succeeding scene brought forth only worse and worse—low, common-place, hackneyed thoughts and expressions, rarely rising to mediocrity. The prize-comedy *Quid pro Quo*, or *the Day of Dupes*, was, without duplicity, and judging it in all its pretensions, an utter failure. Curiosity to see for themselves may draw audiences for several nights; but this is poor recompense for the spirited manager.

Lyceum.—The *Momentous Question*—a drama founded on an episode in Crabbe's *Tales of the Hall*, so pathetically illustrated in Miss Setchel's admired painting (now charmingly engraved)—has been produced here with entire success. Miss Fortescue is the heroine; and assisted by F. Vining in a serious, and Collier in a comic, character, carries out the plot to a *dénouement* considerably altered from the poet, with much interest and deserved *éclat*.

French Plays.—Levassor made his bow on Monday evening to the gratification of a numerous audience, by whom the rich eccentricities of this comic artist were highly relished. Mitchell's benefit on Wednesday attracted a house filled to overflow. *Le Capitaine Charlotte* was carried triumphantly to a conclusion through the talent of Dejazet. The new piece advertised for Dejazet and Levassor to appear together in, was the only drawback upon the evening's enjoyments. Previous to the commencement of the piece, M. Rhojerit came forward to announce the illness of Levassor, whose *medecin* had positively interdicted his appearance, and craving the indulgence of the audience for Liénard, who had at a very short notice undertaken the rôle of *Le Marquis de Carabas*. Dejazet was, as usual, triumphantly successful. *Georgette*, with the sprightly Madame Albert, terminated the amusements of the evening.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

CHARLES DICKENS, Esq.—On Wednesday a dinner was given to this popular author by a party of admiring friends at Greenwich; to wish him God-speed in his visit to Italy for some twelve-months. Between forty and fifty sat down to the entertainment (being obliged to limit the numbers and shut out the desire of many for wider publicity); and it was truly the feast of reason and the flow of soul. The Marquis of Normanby presided, and the table was surrounded almost entirely by individuals of rank in society, or distinguished in connexion with literature and art. These classes were fairly represented by Lords Fitzhardinge, Mor-

peth, and Mulgrave, the Hon. Mr. Ridley Colborne, and Mr. M. Milnes, M.P.'s; Hon. B. Stanley; the church, as well as literature, by the Rev. Messrs. Barham, Dyce, and Harness; the stage by Messrs. C. Kemble, C. Young, Harley, and Mr. J. Wilson, the prince of Scottish song; the fine arts by Messrs. Turner Stanfield, MacIach, E. and C. Landseer, Leslie, Stone, G. Cruikshank, and H. K. Brown; the medical profession, Mr. R. Liston and Dr. Quin; literary pursuits generally, Ainsworth, Bell, Fonblanque, Forster, Jerdan, Jerrold, Procter, Thackeray. Many animated and feeling speeches were delivered, suitable to the occasion and the guests; and the company separated at a late hour with hearty wishes to meet again to commemorate the safe return of their much-valued friend, laden with stores from "pastures new" wherewith to delight and improve the age in which he lives.

THE CHARTER-HOUSE SQUARE INFIRMARY.

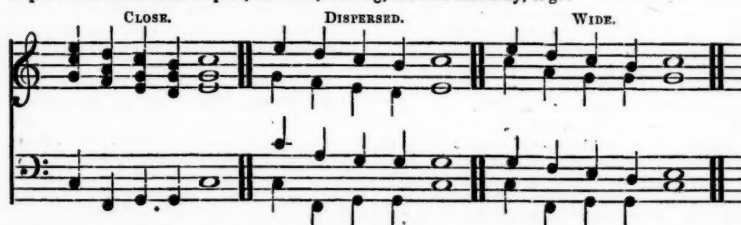
We have so frequently explained the nature of this benevolent institution, and described the blessings it bestowed upon thousands of our afflicted fellow-creatures, that we need not go into the details of the meeting at the Mansion-house, last Saturday, assembled to carry out the grateful proposition made at the last anniversary (see *Lit. Gaz.*, No. 1425), to enter upon a subscription for a testimonial to Mr. F. Salmon (the founder of the infirmary, and its humane and indefatigable surgeon), of the sense entertained of his services in this good cause. Sir J. Lushington presided, and opened the business with a brief and clear statement; giving a history of the charity from its foundation, nine years ago, and of the benefits it had conferred upon the thousands of poor sufferers relieved by the skill of Mr. Salmon; in which latter important point all he said was fully confirmed by Mr. Moore, surgeon, who had placed himself as a pupil under Mr. S., to acquire a knowledge of the treatment of this class of diseases; and bore warm testimony to its efficacy and extent as witnessed by himself. Resolutions in furtherance of the design were moved and supported by this gentleman, Alderman Musgrove, Alderman Copeland, Mr. H. Pownall, Sir E. Parry, the Rev. Dr. Vivian, Mr. S. Bendry Brooke, Mr. J. G. Frith, Alderman Sir Chapman Marshall, and Major Moore, and all voted with great applause. The speeches most justly eulogised the conduct of Mr. Salmon, not only for his professional ability and unremitting attention, but for his liberality, humanity, sympathy, and kindness towards all whom he took in charge. The chief resolution embodied these sentiments in the following words:—

"That with the view of recording the opinion entertained by the governors and subscribers of this institution of the professional talents and private worth of Mr. F. Salmon, and more particularly to mark their estimation of the services he has rendered to the suffering poor through the medium of this charity, it is proposed that a subscription be entered into for the purpose of presenting him with some testimonial as a lasting token of their regard, confidence, and esteem; and that a committee be appointed for carrying this resolution into effect."

The committee was accordingly named; and we trust soon to see an amount of subscription announced commensurate, in some degree, to the devotedness of Mr. Salmon gratuitously through so long a period of time, and consistent with the gratitude due to so zealous and efficacious a benefactor of his kind.

THE CONTRAPUNTAL AND MUSICAL REVIEW.

MUSICIANS only (by which we mean good theorists and contrapuntists) ought to edit and arrange sterling works, so that the public might be assured of justice having been done to them. If the world were well taught in music, it would often value a professor of music less, after having placed his name to many sterling works which are constantly coming out with altered arrangements. A good author may be much impaired and misunderstood by an unartistic arranger, and it would be advisable never to purchase the works of our most classic composers brought out under the auspices of those who have not themselves figured in some original composition. There have been many editions, for instance, of John Sebastian Bach's works published, none of which, however, have escaped partial injury at the hands of the editors. More than half the errors visible in Bach's works have arisen either through ignorance or presumption. On the one hand, the parties have been ignorant of Bach's peculiar method of employing harmonies; and on the other, many have believed that they could soften his harmonies by altering a note or two in some of his passages. It is well known that S. Bach was, perhaps, the most voluminous and careful composer, and that he did not begin to publish his works before the age of thirty, and that he was most particular in correcting oversights of his own and errors of the publisher. Notwithstanding his care to preserve his own ideas, yet mistakes and partial alterations have been made in his sublime compositions—many of which are owing to the editors being inferior contrapuntists—many of them knowing little or nothing about counterpoint. As S. Bach himself observed, "he only who has grappled with difficulties knows well how to avoid them." The man, therefore, who would do justice to Bach's works, is he who has composed in the highest school of counterpoint. But unless an editor can correct the faults of the present editions, he is doing himself no credit in presenting the world with his new editions, whilst retaining the old defects. Having spoken on the highest order of classical music, we will now make a few remarks on close harmony on the organ. First, then, we will give a brief example of the three sorts of part, or voice, writing, used in harmony, e. g.:



The above example is a melodious cadence formed out of the three triads c, d, and a, and it must be evident, that dispersed harmony is infinitely more effective than either close or wide harmony. The most classic composers of all times have written in dispersed harmony for the organ. Upon whose authority close harmony is defended in the present day,—we allude particularly to those who have arranged our good church psalmody in this manner,—we can form no idea; of this we are certain, that the celebrated choral writers of other times, when music as a science was more studied than it is in England at the present day, would never have descended to have cramped their melodies together, and thus destroy the force of the harmonies. Rich harmony is gained by producing in each part or voice an agreeable flow of melody. It is this which makes the stringed quartets and quintets of the great masters so fertile and sublime. If, in a quartet, the composer struck only chords together in close harmony, what would be the result, but that the want of a flowing melody in each part would render the music uninteresting and tame?

Close harmony is beautiful in writing for equal voices; for example, three trebles; but for unequal voices dispersed harmony is much richer, and gives more latitude for melody in each voice. No musician, however, deserves to be praised for arranging any composition in close harmony for the organ.

BIOGRAPHY.

THOMAS CAMPBELL.

THE poet died at Boulogne on the afternoon of Saturday last, after a protracted illness, in the presence of his niece and medical attendants, among whom he had the consolation to number his attached and valued friend Dr. William Beattie. The biography of Campbell has been before the public in so many shapes, and is so generally known, that we will not, at least at the present moment, go into any of the details. A young and ardent Scotchman, he published *The Pleasures of Hope* in Edinburgh, 1797, and was instantly raised by acclamation, and almost in boyhood, to the rank of a national and immortal bard. In 1799 a duodecimo edition was issued; in 1801 it appeared together with other poems of great beauty; and by 1804 no fewer than seven editions had borne witness to a growing, a lasting, and widely extended popularity. Mr. Campbell hence adopted the literary life; and in

1808 his *Annals of Great Britain, from the Accession of George III. to the Peace of Amiens*, in three octavo volumes, issued from the press. The next year saw *Gertrude of Wyoming*, quarto, and in five years it exhausted five editions. *The British Poets*, seven vols. octavo, came out in 1819; *The Life of Mrs. Siddons, Frederick of Prussia* (of the authorship of which the less that is said the better), the editing of *The New Monthly Magazine*, and many other literary labours, occupied him very nearly to the end of his mortal career. His later years were dimmed by very indifferent health, and only a few months ago he sought the retirement and sea-breezes of a foreign residence for the repose so needful to a shattered constitution. It is probable that his remains will rest in Westminster Abbey,* with the ashes of the famed in

* One of the best likenesses of Mr. Campbell is the marble bust executed by Mr. Park, which, if it be not employed in Westminster Abbey, would be well placed in the London University, of which, we believe, Mr. Campbell may be considered the founder.

elder days, with whom he has truly earned his place.

The following letter, respecting one of his works, will be read with interest now, and with it we for the present close this brief memorial.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

SIR,—On the first appearance of Campbell's *Life of Mrs. Siddons*, various persons asserted in conversation, and others hinted in print, that a very large portion of it was written by me. During the author's lifetime I did not choose publicly to disclaim any partnership in the composition of that unfortunate book; but as my poor friend's death has been just announced to me, and as the press is likely to teem with biographical notices of so distinguished a man, I beg leave to trouble you with the following statement.

Soon after Campbell had received the materials which Mrs. Siddons had bequeathed to him for her biography, he wrote to me on the subject; informing me, that, as he had a very slight acquaintance with stage-history, he dreaded the undertaking, and offering me, if I would become his coadjutor, one half of the sum which E. Wilson was to pay him for the work. I refused the money, but promised him all the assistance in my power. He next forwarded to me his papers, consisting chiefly of Mrs. Siddons' memoranda for her life and a great mass of letters which she had written, at various intervals, to her intimate friend Mrs. Fitz-Hughes. Having carefully gone over the whole, I returned them with sundry illustrations; and subsequently, from time to time, I sent him other notes which I thought might suit his purpose. As, on one occasion, he had spoken slightly of the letters to Mrs. Fitz-Hughes (calling them "very dull," and saying that, "the mind of Mrs. Siddons moved in them like an elephant"), and was evidently inclined not to print them, I strongly urged him by no means to omit them, since they appeared to me, though a little pompous in style, extremely characteristic of the writer.

While he was engaged on the biography, a report reached him that Mrs. Jamieson was about to publish *Memoirs of Mrs. Siddons*, and that Miss Siddons (now Mrs. Combe) had furnished her with many anecdotes. At this he was excessively angry; and shewed me a letter which he had written to Miss Siddons indignantly complaining that she should patronise Mrs. Jamieson's work, when she must be aware that he had been specially appointed her mother's biographer. As the letter in question was perhaps the most extraordinary ever addressed by a gentleman to a lady, I entreated him to throw it into the fire; but he positively refused. Whether it was eventually sent or not, I never learned: if it was, Mrs. Combe cannot have forgotten it. He had afterwards some communication with Mrs. Jamieson, in consequence of which she abandoned her design.

I first read Campbell's *Life of Mrs. Siddons* at Aberdeen; and I read it with astonishment. I found that it was crammed with mistakes of every possible description; that of the many interesting letters to Mrs. Fitz-Hughes only two or three had been inserted; and that of the sundry *notulæ* which I had furnished one alone was printed, viz. the account of Mrs. Siddons' last performance on the stage in 1819. That account (occupying pp. 364-5 of vol. ii. ed. 8vo.) is, therefore, the only portion of the work which was contributed by your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER DYCE.

London, 18 June, 1844.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

TO THE NIGHTINGALE.

SWEET bird of spring, oh how I love at eve
In dewy April, when the moon is high,
To listen to thy gushing melody,
And in my heart its saddening joy receive!
Methinks thy breast doth hatch, thy small bill weave,
All music's spell; strains that now melt and die
In liquid gurgle, and now cleave the sky
In trills that ecstasy alone can weave.
Oh for a glimpse, thou peerless child of song,
Of those rare thoughts that fill thy amorous tale!
Only to breathe—I ask not to prolong—
The inspiration thou dost still inhale!
—For poësy to term them were to wrong
Such lays as thine, melodious Nightingale!
C. J. C.

VARIETIES.

Electric Fluid.—M. Thilorier and M. Ch. Lafontaine have submitted for the opinion of a committee of the Academy of Sciences, Paris, experiments which appear to them to prove the existence of a new imponderable fluid analogous to electricity or to magnetism. The committee to examine and report are MM. Magendie, Chevreul, Becquerel, Regnault, Dutrochet, and Poncelet.—*Paris Letter.*

The Wellington City Statue was, by great exertion on the part of the workmen, placed upon its pedestal on Tuesday last, the anniversary of Waterloo. The king of Saxony happening to be on a visit to the Lord Mayor at the time, the occasion was seized to invite his majesty, impromptu, to the opening of this tribute of civic gratitude for the Duke of Wellington's services when in office; and thus, an additional royal éclat was given to the ceremony. Mr. Lambert Jones addressed the assembled multitude in an appropriate manner; and the king, who joined in the huzzas, returned to the Mansion House to finish his lunch.

The Booksellers' President Institution observed its anniversary at Greenwich on Wednesday; James Duncan, Esq. in the chair. It was attended by about 120 gentlemen, and the proceedings were most satisfactory throughout. The fund is prospering as completely as its best friends could wish.

Rain.—Seasonable showers have altered the weather about the metropolis during the week. Even with all our dry spring and summer, it might be well to console ourselves with the old saying, "Drought never bred dearth in England."

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Industrial Resources of Ireland, by R. Kane, M.D., post 8vo, 7s.—Morrell's Voyage to the South and West of Africa, post 8vo, 6s.—French Tutor's Assistant, 8vo, 3s.—Jersey, its Ancient and Modern State, and other Poems, post 8vo, 2s. 6d.—Wild Flowers, or Poetic Gleanings from Natural Objects, by Miss C. S. Pyer, fcp. 4s.—The White Lady and Undine, Tales from the German, fcp. 7s.—S. T. Coleridge's Poems, 1 vol. fcp. 6s.—Sketches of the Reformation and Elizabethan Era, by the Rev. J. V. W. Hawers, fcp. 6s.—The Ideal of a Christian Church, by the Rev. W. G. Ward, 8vo, 14s.—Chambers' Edinburgh Journal, New Series, Vol. I. Imperial 8vo, 4s. 6d.—Rev. T. Scott's Bible, Fisher's Edition, 3 vols. 4to, 4l., or with plates, 4l. 10s.—The Science of Trade as applied to Legislation, by G. B. Kemp, 12mo, 7s.—Emigration and Colonisation, by T. Rolph, 8vo, 12s.—Recollections of Napoleon, by Mrs. Abel, post 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Dissent, its Character, Causes, &c., fcp. 8vo, 3s. 6d.—Italian Correspondence for Ladies, translated into English, 18mo, 4s. 6d.—Juvenal's Satires, 3, 10, 13, 14, Rupert's Text, with Notes, by W. C. Boyd, 12mo, 4s. 6d.—Formation of Words of German Language, by Apel, 8vo, 3s. 6d.—Alford's Prose Hymns pointed for Chanting, 18mo, 2s.—Correspondence of Light Hon. E. Burke, edited by Earl Fitzwilliam and Sir R. Bourke, 4 vols. 8vo, 2l. 8s.—Dr. Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia, Vol. 131; Thirlwall's History of Greece, Vol. 8, fcp. 6d.—The Hope of Katakopsis, a Fairy Tale, by W. Churne, 18mo, 2s. 6d.—Miniature of the Pictures in the National Gallery, Series I. coloured, 2l.—Miscellaneous Contributions to Pathology and Therapeutics, by J. R. Smyth, M.D., 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Braithwaite's Retrospect of Medicine and Surgery, Vol. 9, Jan. to June 1844, 12mo, 5s. 6d.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1844.	h. m. a.	1844.	h. m. a.
June 22 . . .	12 1 39.4	June 26 . . .	12 2 30.3
23 . . .	1 52.3	27 . . .	2 42.7
24 . . .	2 51.3	28 . . .	2 54.9
25 . . .	2 17.8		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are sorry we cannot promise W. P. insertion. The handwriting is very indistinct, but intelligible enough to betray a want of sufficient polish in moulding the thoughts.

To our correspondent R. R., of Norwich, we must also say nay.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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The Chair will be taken at Half-past Three o'clock precisely.

CHARLES M. WILLIAMS, Secretary and Actuary.

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TESTIMONIAL TO MR. FREDERICK SALMON.

At a numerous and most influential Meeting, convened in consequence of a Special Requisition, signed by Two Hundred and Seventy of the Governors and Subscribers, addressed to the Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR, President of this Charity, and held at the Hall of Commerce on the 8th ultimo,

Major-General Sir JAMES LAW LUSHINGTON, G.C.B., Vice-President, in the Chair,

It was moved by THOMAS R. MOON, Esq. Surgeon, seconded by Mr. Alderman MUGROVE, Sheriff, and resolved unanimously—
"That the Infirmary for the relief of Fistula and other Diseases of the Rectum, established in Charter-House Square, having been in existence during a period of about Nine Years, has conferred an important and lasting benefit upon medical science and suffering humanity."

Moved by W. T. COPELAND, Esq. Ald. M.P. V.P., seconded by HENRY FOULKE, Esq., and resolved unanimously—
"That the zealous, effective, and philanthropic manner in which Mr. FREDERICK SALMON, the founder of the Charter-House Square Infirmary, has gratuitously performed his arduous and responsible duties, as Surgeon to the Institution, from the period of its foundation, entitles him to the best thanks of the Governors and Subscribers, and of the public at large."

Moved by Capt. Sir EDWARD PARRY, R.N., seconded by the Rev. Dr. VIVIAN, and resolved unanimously—
"That, with the view of recording the opinion entertained by the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution of the professional talents and private worth of Mr. FREDERICK SALMON, and more particularly to mark their estimation of the services he has rendered to the suffering poor, through the medium of this charity, it is proposed that a subscription be entered into, for the purpose of presenting Mr. SALMON with some Testimonial, as a lasting token of their regard, confidence, and esteem; and that the following gentlemen be requested to act as a Committee for carrying this resolution into effect, with power to fill up any vacancies that may occur:

Wm. Atkinson, Esq. Edward H. Jones, Esq.
George Blogg, Esq. Thomas Margrave, Esq.
H. R. Briggs, Esq. Mr. Sheriff MUGROVE, Ald.
S. B. Brooke, Esq. Treas. Capt. Sir E. PARRY, R.N.
Ald. Copeland, M.P. V.P. Henry Foulke, Esq.
J. G. Frith, Esq. John Richards, Esq.
T. Howell, Esq. Hon. Sec. Thomas Shepperson, Esq.
Rev. Dr. Vivian.

Moved by S. B. BROOKE, Esq., seconded by J. G. FRITH, Esq., and resolved unanimously—
"That the proceedings of this meeting be advertised, as the discretion of the Committee, and a copy of the same transmitted to each of the Governors and Subscribers to the charity, together with a blank form of subscription, requesting the same may be filled up and returned to the Honorary Secretary, by the 1st of August next."

Moved by Sir CHARLES MARSHALL, Ald. V.P., seconded by Major J. A. MOON, and resolved unanimously—
"That the cordial thanks of this meeting be offered to Major-General Sir JAMES LAW LUSHINGTON for his kindness in taking the Chair, and for the efficient and courteous manner in which he has conducted the proceedings."

Subscriptions in furtherance of the above purpose will be received at the Banking-house of Messrs. Masterman and Co., 3 Regent Street; or by the members of the Committee.

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CONTENTS:

- I. Books for Children.
- II. Shuttleworth's Phonics.
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